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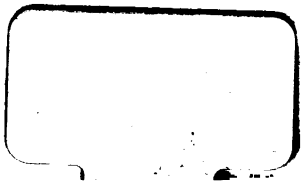

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By ROGER MACDONALD, Esq.

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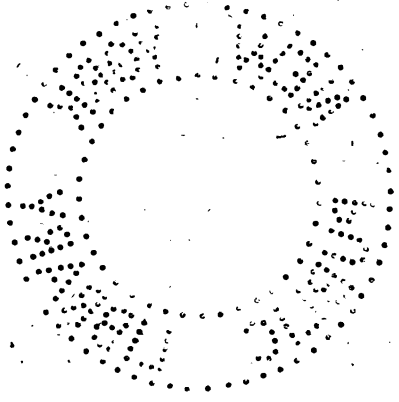

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BRITISH

MARTIAL REGISTER.

Campaigns of the Duke of Marlborough.

1697 to 1715.

Death of William III. and Accession of Queen Anne—Battle of Blenheim—Honours paid to the Duke of Marlborough—Account of Marshal Tallard—Battle of Ramilies—Effects of disappointed ambition in the French king—Battle of Oudenarde—siege of Lisle—Battle of Wynendale—Biographical Account of Prince Eugene, and the Duke of Marlborough.

WE are now arrived at a period as brilliant in military talents and success as any part of the British annals, owing to the extraordinary abilities and favourable fortune of the subject by whose name they are distinguished. Indeed as we approach our own times we shall be naturally led, by the superior information arising from the approximation of events, to a closer observation of those who have attained to distinction in arms; when that national justice, which will be found prodigal of gratitude to all who deserve well of their country, will render less wonderful that surprising elevation by which the duke of Marlborough, from the ordinary condition of a private subject, became little less than the sovereign of Britain, and more than the conqueror of Europe.

To prevent the accession of the dauphin to the throne of Spain, then vacant, and thereby preserve the balance of European power, which would have been endangered by so vast an acquisition to France, the emperor

king of England, and the states-general, entered into a treaty, called from its importance, the grand alliance, and the English monarch prepared to give life to the whole; when a fall from his horse put an end to his career, and deprived the British nation of the greatest prince of Europe, in the year 1702.

Of William III. it would be useless, in our confined limits, to pronounce a general character, whose eulogy has been long and powerfully declared, and to whom we owe the constitution of things as we at present enjoy them.

This powerful monarch was descended from the ancient house of Nassau, (which had already given an emperor to Germany, in the person of Adolphus count of Nassau); he was great grandson of William I. prince of Orange, who founded the republic of the United Provinces, the most powerful in Europe; and son to Henry Frederic, by Mary the daughter of Charles I. of England. He came into the world under many disadvantages, having, from the circumstances of his birth, occasioned prematurely by the fright of his mother on the death of his father (in 1649) a very inferior constitution, and, from the incumbrances on his revenue, and the disputes of his father with the states, extremely embarrassed affairs. Added to this, that himself, at the instance of Cromwell, was compelled to renounce the Stadtholdership, and be content with the dignity of captain-general of the United Provinces. After a long struggle, however, in which he in vain solicited the assistance of his maternal uncle Charles II. he conquered his political enemies, was made hereditary Stadtholder, with accession of power, and De Wit, the Dutch minister, who had procured his exclusion, was torn in pieces by the mob. This reverse had been well earned by the prince, whose natural talents (although checked even in education by the prejudices of the Dutch govern-

ment) and personal prowess, had, even in his adversity, reinstated his country in the possession which had been violated by France, and paralyzed the efforts of Lewis the Great, in his advances to universal monarchy.

In 1672, during the negociations of Nimeguen, the prince came to England a second time (having before solicited in person of Charles II. the payment of monies advanced to him, in exile, by his father) and married the princess Mary his cousin, daughter of the duke of York, afterwards James II. much against the inclination of Catholic Europe. Neither his marriage, nor any other consideration, however, could make him abandon his connexions on the continent, with whom he continued most gallantly, but with unequal success, to oppose the power and insolence of France, till at length the revolution of England enabled him to make a more serious stand, just at the moment when his territories were about to be invaded with a force which promised their speedy subjection.

King William was thirty-nine years of age at the revolution in 1688, on the 5th of November, in which year he was crowned. He was therefore at a time of life admirably adapted to his new acquisition of power, and did not long linger from the favourite object of his heart, the reduction of French greatness. It was to this spirit that we were indebted for the exertions we have seen, and even those which follow. For, although, dead this great monarch might be yet supposed to act, and how well his object was attained, will be shortly seen.

This Prince is charged with a neglect in his government at home, in the pursuit of a continental war, and with having introduced an expedient system of

policy, which does not always regard the interests of humanity; he has been considered by some as attaining, indirectly, a power more absolute than that to which the male line of Stuart was sacrificed, and undervaluing it after it was obtained, with a sullen disinclination to conceal his want of attachment to his English subjects. It is not to our purpose to controvert these charges, since no one has attempted to deny his martial prowess, and to him we are indebted for the blessings at present enjoyed under the mild, yet powerful government of his descendants.

The following anecdotes are consonant with our plan, though the affairs in which they occurred were not so, having happened long previous to his accession to the British throne.

At the battle of Seneffe, which gained him decisive credit with his countrymen, he charged, himself, in a variety of places, with too great a neglect of his person on which so much depended. He was once engaged amongst a body of French, when thinking them his own men, he bade them charge, and was answered they had no more powder. Discovering his mistake in an instant, he flew from them, and brought up a body of his own army to charge them, and they were quickly routed.

At the battle of Montcassel, after a sharp dispute, the first regiment of Dutch infantry, began to break. The prince rallied them several times, but was at last borne down by the flight of his men, whom he was forced to resist like enemies. He fell in among them with a sword in hand, and cutting the first across the face, cried aloud, "Rascal, I'll set a mark on thee at least, that I may hang thee afterwards." He was carried by the torrent of the run-aways to the rest of his troops, which yet made

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made a stand, and with these he accomplished a retreat that came little short of a victory.

William III. died in March 1702, aged 51, and was succeeded by his sister-in-law, queen Ann, a princess of amiable disposition and courteous manners. The first part of her reign, which accords with our purpose, is the most splendid event of her second year.

THE BATTLE OF BLENHEIM.

From the circumstances already described, nothing could be more deplorable than the situation to which the emperor Leopold was reduced, in the beginning of the year 1704. The siege of Vienna, his capital, was on the one side threatened by the French and Bavarians, and on the other by the prince Ragotsky, at the head of the Hungarians, fighting for their liberty, supported by the treasure of France, as well as Turkey. In this dreadful emergency, by the advice of prince Eugene, the emperor implored the assistance of her Britannic majesty, and the duke of Marlborough explained to her the necessity of undertaking his relief. The plan was approved of by the British ministry; and had not the English general marched to the relief of the emperor, it is probable the house of Austria would have been entirely ruined.

He forced his way through the enemy's lines, after a bloody contest, took Donawert, passed the Danube, and laid Bavaria under contribution. Mareschal Villeroi, who attempted to follow him when he began his march, presently lost sight of him, till he heard of the victory of Donawert. Marlborough was resolved that prince Louis of Baden, who was with him at Donawert, should

In these circumstances it was thought a very hazardous enterprize to attack so numerous an army in so advantageous a post, which the confederates could not approach but by filling off, and by passing, in view of the enemy, a marshy rivulet, which could not be done in good order. But on the other hand, there seemed to be an indispensable necessity for falling immediately upon the enemy, before they had time to fortify themselves in that post; for not only the confederate army would have wanted forage much sooner than Ingoldstadt could have been taken, but the generals had very good information from intercepted letters that the Mareschal de Villeroi had orders to leave M. Coigni, in the camp near Offenburg, with a body of troops, sufficient to keep those of the allies within the lines of Biehl, and was ready with the remainder of the army, to make an irruption into the country of Wurtemburg. That army might then have acted in concert with the elector of Bavaria, and have been reinforced by detachments from the prince's army, to fall afterwards on the rear of the lines of Biehl; so that thereby the French armies would have established a free communication from the Rhine to the Danube, and would have forced all to submit to them as far as the Mayne. In the mean time the elector from his camp at Hochstet, might have ruined a great part of the circle of Franconia, and have brought things to that pass, that the auxiliaries, under the duke of Marlborough, would not have been able to find either subsistence or winter quarters on the Danube, and in the upper Germany: though, on the other hand, that great and seasonable supply could not have left the empire, in the winter without exposing it to the brink of ruin, from which they

they had lately happily retrieved it, and without leaving a very great superiority to the enemy. Some allege another reason, viz. that in case of a victory, of which his grace was pretty confident, he was now out of all danger of any part of the honour of it being attributed to prince Louis's conduct, that of the victory of Donawert having been (though unjustly) almost ascribed to him by some who made it their business to depreciate the duke's merit, when the last pretence was to be found, though never so far stretched.

These (without considering the last-mentioned) were prevalent arguments to engage the duke of Marlborough and prince Eugene to hazard a battle, though under great disadvantages, yet there were not wanting those, who accused these two great generals of rashness in the attempt, and insinuated that they would not have been sufficient to have excused them, had success been wanting. The English (say they in particular) would not have pardoned the duke for hazarding the lives of their countrymen, in favour of the imperialists. But here these remarks seem to be under an undeniable mistake, for we certainly were in an humour, at that time, to have sacrificed more in favour of that court. It is indeed true, that success generally covers a rash action, and, on the contrary, a miscarriage is as often the cause that temerity is not forgiven. The grounds, however, upon which these arguments were founded, seem incontestible; and they had their due weight with our generals. For that very night, all necessary preparations were made for the attack, and the baggage was sent to Reellingen, a village between Munster and Donawert.

In the mean time, several general officers came and represented to the duke of Marlborough the difficulties of the design in their most lively colours; but they had no effect in his steady resolution, which he had not fixed without weighing every circumstance and the consequences which might or could possibly attend them. He knew that the post, which the enemy possessed, was capable of being put, in a very short time, out of all danger of future attacks. He duly considered that even a defeat itself could hardly be more fatal than lying still and doing nothing. On the other hand, the glory of a victory, which he had in view, and which, from the experience of the bravery of the troops under his command, led by the officers of the most consummate judgment and valour, was alone capable to dispel those clouds of diffidence, however just, in the minds of men of a less enlightened genius, and understanding. He therefore told them he was sensible of all these difficulties, but the attempt was absolutely necessary; upon which the orders which were distributed through the whole army, were received with such alacrity and chearfulness, as gave a happy presage of the glorious success that followed.

It plainly appeared, by every circumstance of the duke's behaviour, antecedent to this brilliant action, that he was resolved either to conquer or die in the attempt; and (to his eternal honour be it said) *a little before the battle* he devoted himself with great solemnity *to the Almighty Lord and Ruler of Hosts*, in presence of his chaplain, and received the sacrament. And no less memorable and praiseworthy is what his grace is reported to have said after the battle, viz. That he believed he had prayed more that day than all the chaplains in the army.

The

The confederate army had 52 pieces of cannon, and consisted of 66 battalions and 178 squadrons, which might amount to 50 or 52,000 men. That of the enemy was near 60,000 strong, consisting of 82 battalions and 160 squadrons, with 90 (or as some say 100) pieces of cannon, eight of which were twenty-four pounders. Their right wing was commanded by the mareschal de Tallard, and made up of the army he had brought to the elector's assistance, consisting of sixty squadrons and forty battalions of the best troops of France. On the left was the elector with the Bavarians, and the mareschal de Marsin, with the French troops under his command.

This bloody aad decisive battle merits a particular attention, and we shall be as minute as possible. The French generals have been censured for many blunders, the principal of which was their bringing their army under the necessity of fighting, instead of suffering the enemy to be consumed for want of forage, and giving mareschal Villeroi time to fall upon the unguarded Netherlands, or march into Germany. But in answer to this reproach, we must consider that the French being more numerous than the confederate army, they had some reason to expect the victory, and had they obtained it, the emperor must have been dethroned. But Tallard's great fault was that of being extremely short-sighted which is highly dangerous for a general.

About half an hour after midnight, the drums beat the general, the assembly at half an hour after one, the march at two; upon which the whole army was in motion, and by three they began to pass the river called Kessel, on several bridges that had been prepared the night before. They filed off in about eight columns of imperial

imperial cavalry to their left; the left wing, which was composed of the auxiliaries, marched likewise in four columns, viz. two of foot, on the left of the imperial horse, and two of horse, on the left of all.

Thus the whole army advanced as far as the rivulet, near Thiffengen, where the advanced guards were ordered to return to their respective bodies, and the two brigades of Hessian infantry, which had been left in that village under the command of major-general Wilks, with fifteen squadrons, which the duke of Marlborough commanded out, formed, on the left of all a ninth column, and thus they marched towards Schweiningen.

As soon as the nine columns were arrived between that village and the wood, they made a halt to observe the enemy, who seemed unconcerned, and did not make any great motion. About six o'clock (the 13th of August) the duke of Marlborough and prince Eugene, who had posted themselves on a rising ground, called to them all the generals, to give them necessary directions for the attack, and the army advanced to the plain, where they were drawn up in order of battle. The left wing, which was under the immediate care of the duke of Marlborough, consisted of 48 battalions and 56 squadrons, of which 14 battalions and 13 squadrons were English troops, 22 squadrons Danish, 14 battalions and 19 squadrons Dutch, 13 battalions and 25 squadrons of the forces of Lunenburg, 9 squadrons of the troops of Hesse, and some troops of Wurtemberg.

About seven, before the confederate army was drawn up in battalia, the enemy at the approach of their vanguard gave a signal for firing two pieces of cannon, to call in their foragers. They also set fire to the villages Unterklau, Wolperstette, Weiler, Berghausen, and Schwein-

Schweinenbach, and their whole army was perceived to be in motion. They then beat the general, then the assembly, and the confederates saw them in arms before their camp, their generals with their aids-du-camp, galloping to and fro to put all things in order.

The mareschal de Tallard, in particular, having made all his dispositions on his enemy's right, where he commanded, gave orders to M. de Surlaulier, who commanded the right of the cavalry, to have a watchful eye on the motions of the confederates, and as soon as a certain number of them had passed the rivulet, he should charge them. M. de Clarambault had orders to remain in the village of Blenheim, and there to withstand the enemy's attack with all his force. This done, the mareschal galloped to the center, where he found the elector and the mareschal de Marsin, who had just been making the necessary dispositions on their left, and were ranging their infantry in the best order they could, to withstand the attack of the allies. M. de Tallard gave his electoral highness an account of what dispositions he had made, with which he seemed perfectly satisfied, and embracing him, told him he hoped he should do it with yet greater satisfaction in the evening. The mareschal staid in the center to observe the disposition of the confederates, and took that time to dine with three or four general officers who were with him. He was prevailed upon (as M. de Quincy says, much against his will, and in a very wrong time) to go to the left, that he might be the better judge of the dispositions made there.

On the confederate side, two brigades of foot, commanded by the lord Cutts, lieutenant-general, the major-generals St. Paul and Wilks, and the brigadiers Row and

and Ferguson, and supported by fifteen squadrons, under the command of major-general Wood, were ordered on the left, to possess themselves of the two water-mills, near Blenheim, which the enemy immediately set on fire.

The confederate army in the mean time, advanced into the plain, four columns marched to the left, towards the village of Greynheim, and four of the imperial troops took the right towards the village Schweinenbach, leaving Wolperstette and Berghausen to the left. Being come to the rivulet, they found it difficult for the cavalry to pass, the banks being on each side high, the water standing, and, besides, it was marshy to the right of Oberklau, as also between Unterklau and the mills; it was therefore resolved to facilitate the passage by means of the planks of their pontoons.

About eleven o'clock the whole army being in battalia, in two lines, except some squadrons which made a body of reserve, and the morass being found marshy and unpassable for the infantry, they quickly made four bridges with their pontoons, and repaired the bridge on the high road, which the enemy had destroyed. At the same time, prince Eugene caused the right wing to march along the wood, to fall in the flank of the elector, who extended his left in proportion, to prevent prince Eugene's gaining his flank, and in order to face him. The enemy fearing also, lest the confederates should gain the flank of their right wing, by possessing themselves of the village of Blenheim, sent several detachments of foot that way, and posted twenty-eight battalions, and twelve squadrons of dragoons, in the place. They also posted some infantry in the village of Oberklau and Lutzengen,

zengen, which extremely weakened their main battalion, and was one of the principal causes of their defeat.

To favour the passage of the left, the two brigades of foot, commanded by the lords Cutts, were ordered to go over the rivulet (which had been sounded by the duke's order) first; which done, they posted themselves in a bottom near the village of Blenheim, and for several hours stood the fire of six pieces of cannon, planted on the eminence near the village, with wonderful resolution. At the same time the enemy fired very briskly on the bridges that were laid for the passage of the confederates infantry, but they soon returned the compliment from their batteries, one English and the other Dutch, and the execution was considerable on both sides.

The French, who own they had ninety pieces of cannon advantageously placed in a line before the whole front, pretended they did great execution from their batteries, and that the allies lost 2000 men before the battle began; but if it had been so, it redounds to their shame, to be so totally routed as they were in the end, after so advantageous a beginning.

About noon every thing was ready on the left wing for the attack, and it being found that in several places the horse would want fascines to pass the morass, orders were given that the horse of the second line should provide themselves, each squadron with twenty. By this time a good part of the infantry of the confederate army had posted themselves in and about the village of Unterklau, and the prince of Holsteinbeck possessed himself of the Weiler of Schonback, and caused a counter battery to be erected there.

These preparations being all made, the duke of Marlborough gave orders for a general attack, which was

begun on the left, a quarter before one. Major-general Wilks made the first onset with the five English battalions of How, Ingoldsby, Marlborough, Row, North and Gray; and four battalions of Hessians, supported by lord Cutts and major-general Wood. The five English battalions, led on by brigadier Row, who charged on foot at the head of his own regiment, with unparalleled intrepidity, assaulted the village of Blenheim, advancing to the very muzzles of the enemy's musquets, and some of the officers exchanging thrusts of swords with the French, through the pallisades, but being exposed to a fire much superior to theirs, they were soon forced to retire, leaving behind them near one third part of their men either killed or mortally wounded, and among the latter brigadier Row himself.

In this retreat they were followed by thirteen squadrons of the French gendarmerie and carabiniers, who would have entirely cut them in pieces, had not the Hessian infantry stopped their career by the great fire they made upon them.

The French being repulsed and forced to fly in their turn, were chased by five squadrons of the English horse, who by this time had passed the rivulet; but while they rallied them, some fresh brigades of the enemy, superior in number, charged the English horse with great vigour, and obliged many of them to repass the rivulet with great precipitation.

Here the Hessians again performed notable service, putting the enemy to rout by their continual fire, and regaining a pair of colours, which they had taken from Row's regiment. Whilst Row's army rallied themselves, that of Ferguson, commanded by himself, attacked the village of Blenheim on the left, but with no better

better success; and though both returned three or four times with equal vigour, yet they were still both repulsed with equal disadvantage, so that it was found impossible to force the enemy in that post, without entirely sacrificing the infantry.

The English foot having thus began the engagement on the left, the horse of the same wing passed the rivulet pell-mell, over against the centre or main body of the enemy. The horse of the right wing also passed the rivulet, having made several passages with divers pieces of wood which they found at hand, and a good number of fascines. In a word, all passed, and drew up in order of battle, as well as the ground would permit, on the other side of the rivulet. The enemy gave them all the time they could desire for that purpose, keeping themselves very quiet on the hill they were possessed of, without descending into the meadows towards the rivulet, insomuch that even the second line of their horse had time to form themselves; and to this capital fault of the French some principally ascribe the victory which ensued.

It has been said, but with what truth or grounds we shall leave undetermined, that this neglect proceeded from an ill-timed haughtiness and presumption of the mareschal de Tallard, who, being informed that the allies were laying bridges on the rivulet, used this expression: "If they have not bridges enough, I will lend them some;" and when they told him our troops were actually coming over the rivulet, is reported to have said, with a boastful air, "Let them pass; the more there come over, the more we shall have to kill and take prisoners." But others, who make it their business to excuse that general, assure us, on the contrary, that

he had given positive orders not to let the enemy pass the rivulet, but to charge them as they passed, which orders were not executed. M. de Quincy says, that orders were given to M. de Surlauben (as we observed before) to charge when a certain number of them were passed, and that M. de Clerambault should remain in Blenheim, which seems in some measure to favour the marechal's presumption.

At length the cavalry of the confederates' left wing, marching up towards the hill, that of the enemy began to move, and charged them with a great deal of fury. The French infantry, which was in the village of Blenheim, made at the same time a terrible fire from behind some of the hedges of the villages on the flank of the confederate army, which was advanced too near; so that their first line of horse, to their left, from the head of the line to the three regiments of troops of Hanover, viz. the electoral regiment, that of Voigt, and that of Nagelles, was put into such disorder, that part of them retired even beyond the rivulet: upon which, lieutenant-general Bulan, commander-in-chief of the two troops of Lunenberg, brought up his two regiments of dragoons, and two of the troops of Zell, viz. that of major-general Villiers and that of brigadier Bothmar, from the second line, which charged the enemy's horse with so much vigour, that they broke them, and drove them beyond the second rivulet, called Mevolwerger, and from thence to the very hedges of the village of Blenheim. This gave time to those who had given ground to repass the rivulet, and to form a second line behind those regiments of dragoons and some others that had joined them, so that these dragoons remained in the first line all the remaining time of action.

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The cavalry of the confederates' first wing by this success gained the advantage of forming themselves entirely in order of battle, advanced leisurely to the top of the hill, and charged several times the enemy's horse, who were always routed, but who, nevertheless, rallied every time, although at a considerable distance, and thereby gave the allies an opportunity of gaining ground. The latter preparing to make a fresh attack, the marechal de Tallard caused ten of his battalions to advance, to fill the intervals of his cavalry, in order to make a last effort; which the prince of Hesse-Cassel, general of the horse, and lieutenant-generals Lumley, Bulau, Hompesch, and Ingoldsby perceiving, they routed three battalions of the troops of Zell, to come up to sustain the horse; they then returned to the charge; but the superior fire of the enemy's infantry put their line in disorder, so that it shrunk back, and remained for some time at about 60 paces distant from the enemy, neither party advancing against the other.

At length the allies renewed their charge, and they did it with so much vigour and success, that having broke and routed the enemy's horse, the ten battalions, who found themselves abandoned by them, were entirely cut to pieces, none escaping but a very few soldiers, who threw themselves on the ground as dead, to save their lives.

Marechal de Tallard rallied his broken cavalry behind some tents, which were still standing in his camp; but seeing things in this desparate condition, he resolved to draw off his dragoons and infantry out of the village of Blenheim. He therefore sent off his aides-du-camp to the marechal de Marsin, to desire him to face the enemy with some troops to the right of Plierklau, to keep them

in play, and favour the retreat of the infantry that was at Blenheim; but M. de Marsin informed this messenger, that he had too much on his hands in the front of the village (where he had to deal with the duke of Marlborough in person) to spare any troops, for he was so far from being victorious, that all he could do was to maintain his ground.

In the meantime lieutenant-general Ingoldsby made the prince of Hesse and the lieutenant-generals Lumley and Hompesch sensible how easy it would be entirely to defeat the French cavalry, by charging them on the right flank; which advice being put in execution with great vigour, the enemy were soon put into disorder, and driven to flight, and their rout was entire. Part of them endeavoured to gain the bridge they had on the Danube, between Blenheim and Hochstet; the other part, among whom were the gens-d'armes, were closely pursued by the dragoons of Bothmar, and those who escaped the slaughter threw themselves into the Danube, where most of them were drowned.

Those who fled towards Hochstet rallied once more, and made a shew as if they designed to succour the rest; but the regiment of Bothmar faced them, and kept them in awe for some time, till being at length joined by other regiments, the enemy fled full gallop to Hochstet.

The marechal de Tallard was surrounded by fugitives, and taken near a mill behind the village of Sonderin, not far from the Danube, by M. de Boinenburg, a lieutenant-colonel of the troops of Hesse, and aid-du-camp to the prince of Hesse-Cassel. He chose rather to surrender than run the hazard of drowning, which had been the fate of most of his cavalry, who had taken to the Danube

Danube to escape from the victorious confederate troops. He was taken in sight of the prince of Hesse-Cassel, as his highness himself observed, in a letter written to the States-General the night after the battle. The marquis de Montperoux general of the horse, de Seppeville, de Silly, and de la Valliere, major-generals. M. de la Messiliere, St. Pouange, de Ligondais, and several other officers of note, were likewise made prisoners in their defeat.

During these transactions at the village of Blenheim, and in the centre, the duke of Marlborough caused the village of Oberklau, which was marechal de Marsin's quarters, to be attacked by the brigade Barensdorff, consisting of ten battalions. The prince of Holstein Beck, who commanded them as major-general, and who came to the army but the day before, passed the rivulet at the head of two battalions with great resolution; but as the imperial army, which was to have supported him, were wanting in their duty, and kept musquet-shot from him, he was hardly got over, when seven or eight of the enemy's battalions, attacked him, so that one of them, that of Goor, was almost entirely cut in pieces, and the prince himself desperately wounded and taken prisoner. They put the prince, wounded as he was, into a waggon, in order to carry him away; but fortune afterwards shifting hands, he was retaken in that condition, with three or four bleeding wounds on him, of which he afterwards died.

Notwithstanding this first stroke, these battalions were no sooner supported by some Danish and Hanoverian cavalry, than they charged a second time, but with no better success; till upon the third charge, the duke of Marlborough having himself brought up some squadrons

squadrons, which were supported by others of the body of reserve, made them advance with some battalions beyond the rivulet, upon which the enemy began to retire.

His grace thought it now time to repair towards the attack of the horse, where he indeed found the action already decided in his favour, yet he came time enough to have his share of pushing the 30 squadrons of French horse, and among them most of the gens d'armes, in the Danube.

As soon as the duke had performed these considerable services, the action in the centre being now decided in favour of the confederates, his grace caused part of his victorious cavalry to halt, to observe the motion of that part of the army, which by this time was drawn up behind the morass of Hochstet. During this halt, the elector of Bavaria was perceived making his retreat from the village of Suttingen; upon which a messenger was dispatched to general Hompesch (who, with several others, was pursuing the enemy towards Morselingen, and who had already taken two of their battalions, and forced them to lay down their arms), with orders to face about, and join those who had halted, as well to prevent the elector's falling upon Hompesch's rear, as to form a body in order to charge that prince, who marched in great haste, but rather in good order, with his squadrons on the left and his battalions on the right. Before general Hompesch returned from his chase, the right wing of the confederate army was perceived at some distance behind the elector, and appearing to be part of his army, marching in such a manner as might easily have flanked them, had the duke of Marlborough immediately charged him; but his grace, with

with great prudence, sent out an army to view them. During this time the elector continued marching off with great precipitation, till he reached the morass of Morselingen.

The French horse being entirely defeated, and the confederates being masters of all the ground which was between the enemy and Blenheim, the 28 battalions and 12 squadrons of dragoons, which were in that village, found themselves cut off from the rest of their army, and despairing of being able to make their escape, after a weak attempt to repulse the whole infantry which surrounded the village, they at length capitulated about eight in the evening, laid down their arms, delivered up their colours and standards, and surrendered themselves prisoners of war, on condition that the officers should not be searched. The duke, who upon every occasion displayed an exaltedly generous disposition to his prisoners, not only granted this condition, but, as an additional favour, allowed the officers to wear their swords.

The night coming on, the English troops to whom this little army had surrendered, formed a line at Blenheim, in which the prisoners were, while they continued on their arms all night to secure them.

By this it appears, that of the whole French infantry, which the marechal de Tallard had brought to the assistance of the elector of Bavaria, consisting of 40 battalions all veterans, and the very choice of the French infantry, only two battalions escaped.

Having given an account of the confederates on the left wing, we shall now describe what passed on the right under the command of prince Eugene, who encountered great difficulties, having to deal with the elector

elector of Bavaria and the marechal de Marsin, both old generals, of great courage, conduct, and experience, especially the former, who had commanded in all the wars in Flanders in king William's time, and had before commanded the Imperial army in Hungary, and particularly in 1688, distinguished himself in taking the famous city of Belgrade from the Turks.

The infantry of this wing consisted only of seven battalions of Danish, and eleven of Russian forces; but his cavalry, of 29 squadrons of the troops of the emperor, the king of Prussia, the circle of Suabia, Wirtemberg, and other princes of the states of the empire; though the foot in the end proved the most victorious. The enemy, on their side, had in their left wing 30 battalions, and though we do not any where find the exact number of the squadrons they had in this wing, yet by the number we find marechal de Tallard had in the other wing, and the general account we had of their whole force, their number on this side must have been about 70 or 80; they had also posted 14 battalions in the village of Oberklau, the attack of which the duke of Marlborough had taken upon him with his infantry.

The horse of the right wing of the confederates were most of them posted over against Oberklau; but the 18 battalions who were to the right of all, had a great way to march before they could get up the hill, and besides, the paisage of the rivulet being very difficult, the attack could not begin on that side so soon as prince Eugene could have wished; besides, the troops of the right, which posted themselves in a bottom not far from Lutzengen, were obliged to remain exposed during three hours to the cannonading of the enemy, without being

being able to use their artillery, till at length a counter-battery was raised near the wood.

Though the right could not charge till half an hour after the left had begun the attack, yet they were tolerably successful at first; for the infantry, notwithstanding they were greatly inferior to that of the enemy, stood their ground against them with great firmness and resolution, and the cavalry broke that of the enemy's first line, but they were so vigorously repulsed by that of their second line, that part of them were driven in great confusion beyond the rivulet, and the infantry having no more horse to sustain them, were obliged, notwithstanding the great resistance they made, to retreat 300 or 400 paces with considerable loss, especially the two battalions which were in the flank; indeed at that time appearances were most unfavourable to them. The infantry stood near the wood, and prince Eugene having rallied the horse, again brought them up to the charge, but they were a second time repulsed. They were rallied once more, and for near three quarters of an hour they stood within 60 paces of the enemy, neither side making any motion. The confederates made use of that time to post their troops advantageously, and put them in order, after which they charged a third time. The cavalry had at first some advantage over the enemy, but were afterwards repulsed; the infantry, however, broke, and overthrew that with which they were engaged, though they could not march up to them, but through a most difficult ground, where a smaller number of troops was sufficient to stop a greater. Upon this prince Eugene left his cavalry, seeing little probability of being able to rally them again, and put himself at the head of the infantry, who improving the disorder into which

which they had put that of the enemy, pursued them over hills, dales, rocks, and woods, and having charged them again, entirely routed them, and continued the chase for above an hour's march, as far as the village of Lutzingen. Here prince Eugene caused his victorious foot to make a stand, to give time to his cavalry, which had rallied a great way behind, to rejoin them.

It is very remarkable, that at this last charge, when prince Eugene's infantry defeated with so much vigour that of the enemy, but two of their squadrons stood by them, notwithstanding which they pursued their advantage, and gave the enemy no time to recover themselves. The French horse, daunted by their ill success, retired leisurely. Prince Eugene's horse followed them at the same pace, till having joined their whole wing, they continued the chase for the space of an hour, with all the cheerfulness which could be expected from troops wearied with an action of above five hours, after a march of ten hours in an extreme hot day, and followed the enemy as far as the villages Morselingen and Teissenhoven, where they made a shew as if they would stand their ground, that they might gain time to pass a great morass, and reach Dillingen and Lawincen.

As soon as the action on the left wing was decided, the duke of Marlborough disposed himself to march with part of that wing towards the village of Oberklau, to charge the left of the enemy on their flank, and to succour the right under prince Eugene; but he was informed by the way, by one of the prince's aid-du-campes, that there was no further occasion for it; that all was recovered on his highness's side; and that the enemy had retreated from the villages of Oberklau and Lutzingen after having set them on fire.

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Thus this stupendous battle, which during five hours was fought with various fortune, ended at last in a most complete victory on the side which, before the engagement, had a visible disadvantage; and the success of this great day may justly be attributed to the invincible courage and intrepidity of the confederate troops, and to the conduct and bravery of their generals, though the enemy were indeed guilty of some oversights, which did not a little facilitate their overthrow.

Such was the celebrated battle known in England by the name of Blenheim; of Hochstet, in France; and of Pleynheim, in Germany.

The conquerors lost about 4,500 killed, and near 8000 were wounded, the greatest part in that wing commanded by prince Eugene. The army of the vanquished was almost entirely destroyed; of 60,000 men, who had been so long victorious, there remained not more than 20,000; 12,000 were left dead on the field of battle, the greatest part of 30 squadrons of horse perished in the Danube; 13,000 were made prisoners; 100 pieces of cannon were taken, with 24 mortars; 129 colours, 171 standards, 17 pair of kettle drums, 3,600 tents, 34 coaches, 300 laden mules, 2 bridges of boats, 15 pontoons, 15 barrels and 8 casks filled with silver.

The loss of the battle was imputed to two capital errors committed by marechal de Tallard, namely, his weakening the centre, by detaching such a number of troops to the village of Blenheim, and his suffering the confederates to pass the rivulet, and form unmolested.

Those who fled were dispersed different ways. Never was victory more complete on the field of battle, nor in its consequences; in less than a month the enemy lost

300 miles of territory. Bavaria too being now subjected the emperor, felt at once all the enraged rigour of the Austrian government. On a sudden was the scene changed! The elector of Bavaria, who but a few days before had entertained the most sanguine hopes of being raised to the imperial dignity, had taken possession of Passau, and had opened all the passes to Vienna, was now a fugitive. In his flight to Brussels, he met his brother the elector of Cologne, who was likewise driven from his dominions; they embraced each other, and shed tears. The court of Versailles, hitherto accustomed to prosperity, was now filled with amazement and consternation: nobody durst tell the king so cruel a truth. Madame Maintenon was at last obliged to take upon herself the office to inform his majesty that he was no longer invincible.

The duke of Marlborough, at his first appearance in the house of Peers, after his return to England, was honoured by a very extraordinary eulogium, pronounced by the lord keeper the 15th of December, 1704.

A compliment of the same nature was presented to the duke by the house of commons. The house took into consideration his great services, and in an address to the queen, besought her majesty to consider of some proper means to perpetuate the memory of such noble actions. In a few days she gave them to understand by a message, that she was inclined to grant the interest of the crown in the honor and manor of Woodstock, and hundred of Wootton, to the duke of Marlborough and his heirs; and that, as the lieutenancy and rangership of the parks, with the rents and profits of the manors and hundreds, were granted for two lives, she wished that incumbrance could be removed. A bill was immediately brought

brought in, enabling the queen to bestow those honours and manors on the duke of Marlborough and his heirs, and the queen was desired to advance the sums for clearing the incumbrances. She not only complied with this address, but likewise ordered the comptroller of her works to build in Woodstock park a magnificent palace for the duke and his heirs, upon a plan much more solid than beautiful. This noble pile is decorated with exquisite paintings of the battle, &c. and is known by the name of Blenheim-house.

The duke of Marlborough, however, did not consume his time long in useless splendor; but having received the homage of a grateful people, proceeded to the continent in a union of the characters (each important in itself) of negociator and warrior. Leaving the former to the records of civil history, we proceed to the more important of those military objects to which we are immediately confined.

THE BATTLE OF RAMILLIES.

At the beginning of the campaign, in the year 1706, the French king had resolved to make very considerable efforts. His armies were very formidable: that in Flanders was reinforced, so as to be in a condition to act offensively against the duke of Marlborough, for which its generals had orders. The duke, by the beginning of May, assembled his army between Borchloem and Groch-waren, and found it amount to 74 battalions and 132 squadrons. The force of the enemy consisted of 76 battalions and 132 squadrons. The French court was informed that the Danes and Prussians had not joined the confederates, and that now was the

time to strike some decisive stroke before the junction was made. In this fond imagination such positive orders were sent to the marechal de Villeroi to fight the allies, that the duke of Bavaria, who was then at Brussels, had just time enough to take post-horses to join the army, which passed the Deule on the 12th of May, and posted themselves at Tettemont, with the Gheet before him.

The confederates on their side were no less eager for an engagement, but could hardly flatter themselves with the hopes of having so early and fair an opportunity for it. The duke of Marlborough being apprehensive that the French would play the same game over again, and keep behind the Deule, as they had done the year before; several times expressed his concern and uneasiness about it to those who were intimate with him, and by a wise forecast was laying schemes to put the enemy beside their cautious measures, when Providence threw into his hands an unexpected occasion of signalizing again his courage and conduct.

Upon the enemy's passing the Deule, the duke of Marlborough sent orders to the Danish horse, who were coming from their garrison, to hasten their march, that there might not be the least appearance of delay: he engaged his promise with the field deputies of the States, that their arrears should be duly paid them. The duke of Wirtemberg, who commanded these troops, and was well-affected to the common cause, seeing every thing was complied with that the king of Denmark insisted on, thought he needed not to stay till he sent to that court, nor wait for express orders. He therefore commanded his troops to march, and they made such expedition, that on the 22d of May (N. S) being

being the day before the battle, they came up league of the rear of the confederate army.

About the same time the French, having been by the horse of the mareschal de Marsin's army, confiding in their superiority of number, came of their lines, and encamped between Tirlemont a Judoigne.

The next day, being Whitsunday, about four o'clock in the afternoon, the confederate army marched in eight columns towards Ramillies, a village near which the Gheet takes its source, that they might avoid the inconvenience of passing that river. They soon had information that the enemy, having decamped from Tirlemont, was likewise on their march to meet them, their baggage and heavy cannon being left at Judoigne. The duke of Bavaria and the mareschal de Villeroi, not in the least suspecting the Danes had joined the confederate army, were fully bent upon engaging them either that day or the following; being apprehensive that the duke of Marlborough had formed the design of investing Namur.

Their immediate design was to possess themselves of Ramillies, and the strong camp thereabouts, to prevent the confederates doing the same; and in this they so far succeeded, that being nearer, they got thither first, but had the mortification of being soon beat out of it again.

The fears of the enemy were, however, groundless concerning Namur, for the duke of Marlborough had no such design. His resolution was the same with theirs; and had they not offered him battle on that day, he meant to have attacked them on the next. The two armies met near the village of Ramillies, from

whence the battle took its name. When the confederate army was advanced near this place, they found the enemy getting into the camp of mount St. Andre, and placing their right to the Mahaigne, where they had posted a brigade of foot, and filled the space between that and Ramillies, which is about half a league, an open and level ground, with near 100 squadrons, among which were the troops of the king's household. They had likewise above 20 battalions of foot, with a battery of about 20 pieces of cannon at Ramillies.

About one in the morning, the duke sent the quarter-master-general, with the camp colours and a few squadrons, towards Ramillies, to make a feint as if they designed to form a camp there, the better to penetrate into the enemy's design; and about three, his grace and the marshal d'Auverquerque decamped with the whole army, and advanced in eight columns in a great fog.

A little after eight in the morning, the advanced guard of the confederates, which consisted of 600 horse, and had been sent with all the quarter-masters of the army to view the ground, arrived at the height of Merdop (or Merdan) from whence they perceived the enemy were in motion, and marching in the plain of Mount St. Andre, extending themselves as far as the tomb of Hottomont, towards the Mahaigne. Hereupon they halted, and sent intelligence to the duke of Marlborough and M. d'Auverquerque, who being advanced, about ten, to view the enemy, they could not at first judge whether those squadrons they saw were only to cover their march into their lines, or whether they were the van of the enemy, who came to offer them battle. His grace therefore gave orders to the horse to hasten their march, resolving, if those he saw were

were only covering squadrons, to attack them with his cavalry only. But the fog being soon after dispersed, and the army being then in full view of the enemy, the duke found their whole army approach with an apparent resolution to fight; upon which he made all the necessary dispositions to receive them.

The enemy seeing the confederates so near them, possessed themselves of a very strong castle, placing their right near the tomb of Hottomont, against the Mehaigne, and their left at Anderkirk, or Anterglise, and posted a good part of their infantry in the villages of Anterglise, Ossuz, and Ramillies, which last was near their centre; besides which, they put five battalions near the hedges of the village of Franquenies, which was on the right. The confederates were at the same time drawn up in order of battle, the right wing being posted near Foltz, on the rivulet Yause, with a little morass in front; and the left near the village of Franquenies, on the Mehaigne; where, besides the number of horse belonging to that wing, the duke of Marlborough ordered the Danish squadrons, being 21 in number, to be posted, rightly judging by the situation of the ground, that the stress of the action would be on that side. All things being thus disposed, it was resolved to attack the village of Ramillies, which was the enemy's principal post, and in which, as before observed, they had posted 20 battalions, who had intrenched themselves with a battery of about twelve pieces of treble cannon; and from thence to Anterglise they had formed a line of foot along the Gheet, and a line of horse behind them. In order to this attack, 20 pieces of cannon, of 24-pounders, and some howitzers were brought up, and twelve battalions, who were

to

to be supported by the whole line, were ordered to make the first onset, under the command of lieutenant-general Schultz.

About half an hour past one, the artillery of the confederates began to play; it was immediately answered by the enemy's cannon, and both continued firing with considerable execution; whilst the duke of Marborough was at the head of the lines, to give the necessary orders every where, field-marshal Auverquerque repaired to the left, where, perceiving that the enemy's foot posted in the hedges of Franquenies, galled the horse of that wing, he commanded four battalions, with two pieces of cannon, under colonel Wertmuller, to dislodge them from thence, which they performed with great vigour and resolution. Hereupon the enemy detached two battalions and fourteen squadrons of dragoons on foot, to regain that post; but M. Auverquerque commanded at the same time the whole wing of the Dutch horse to attack the enemy, which not only prevented their design, but put those dragoons into such disorder, that they were not able either to reach the village or recover their horses, which they had left some way behind the tomb of Hottomont; and so were most of them cut in pieces and taken prisoners. The Dutch cavalry charged with a great deal of bravery, sword in hand, and soon after the engagement by the Danish squadrons; but having to deal with the troops of the French king's household, viz. the musqueteers, gens d'arms, guards de corps, horse grenadiers, and other choice troops which were in sight, the conflict was obstinate, and the success doubtful, for above an hour. The Danish horse, which fought on the left of all, behaved themselves with such gallantry, that they forced the enemy to give ground, and broke several of their

their squadrons; but at the same time, the French had almost an equal advantage against the Dutch horse of the right of the left wing, whom they put into great confusion. To remedy this, the duke of Marlborough, who was advanced that way, sent for twenty squadrons of horse from his right wing, where they could not engage the enemy's left, by reason of a morass that separated them; and with these he reinforced his left, adding to them his body of reserve.

The duke of Marlborough, while these troops were advancing to the right, rallied some of the broken squadrons, and gave his orders for others to charge. In this place his grace was in the greatest extremity of danger; for being singled out by several of the most resolute of the enemy, and having the misfortune, as he was leaping a ditch, to fall from his horse, he had either been killed or taken prisoner, if some of the confederate foot, that were near at hand, had not come very seasonably to his assistance. After this his grace had a still narrower escape, a cannon ball taking off the head of colonel Bingfield, his grace's gentleman of the horse, as he was holding the stirrup for the duke to remount.

The twenty squadrons his grace had sent for from the right to reinforce the left, had but little share in the defeat of the enemy's right; for by the time they were come up, the Dutch and Danes having charged them both in front and flank, had almost completed that signal piece of service, cutting in pieces the best part of the French household, insomuch, that they could never be re-established during the remainder of the war. In the mean time the village was vigorously attacked by general Schultz, with twelve battalions under him. The enemy having the advantage of the ground defended

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themselves with great resolution and obstinacy, till seeing the whole line of the confederate infantry in motion to support general Schultz, and the Dutch and Danish horse advancing to surround them, they bethought themselves of making their retreat, but found it was too late, for they were intercepted by the victorious horse, and most of them either killed or taken prisoners.

The rest of the enemy's infantry endeavoured likewise to make their escape, which they did in better order, being favoured by the horse of their left wing, who being covered by a rivulet and morass, had not yet been attacked, and formed themselves into three lines between Ossioz and Antreglise. But the English horse having found means to pass the rivulet, charged the enemy with such unparalleled briskness and courage that they entirely abandoned their foot; and our dragoons pushing into the village of Antreglise, made terrible slaughter of them. The rest of the enemy, who were at the same time attacked by the English and Dutch foot, with equal bravery, gave way on all sides. Their horse rallied again in the plains, to cover the disorderly retreat of their foot; but they were so closely pursued by the confederate cavalry, that they were forced to divide themselves into three small bodies that they might fly the better three different ways. Those that took to the left were quickly pursued by the Dutch and Danes, who made great slaughter amongst them, and took abundance of prisoners; and those that fled to the right were chased by the regiments of Lumley, Hay, and Ross; which two last fell in with the foot regiment of Du Roy, of whom, having killed many, the rest threw down their arms and begged quarter, which was generously granted. Upon this they delivered their arms and colours to the lord

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John Hay's dragoons, but when these dragoons faced about in order to pursue the enemy, they treacherously attempted to take up their arms again; in which, however they were prevented, and suffered severely for their perfidy.

The headmost regiments of the English horse, that pursued the enemy's centre, were that of lieutenant-general Wood, commanded by himself, and Wyndham's (afterwards Palm's) carabineers, headed by major Petry. When they came upon a rising ground, they espied seven squadrons of the Spanish and Bavarian guards, among whom was the elector himself, and the mareschal de Villeroi, who hoped with these few choice troops to make good their retreat, and save their cannon, which was marching in a line before them. General Wood galloped with his own regiment upon the enemy's left, and charged them so vigorously, that he completely broke them, killing many and taking a great number prisoners, amongst whom were two lieutenant-colonels, one major, four captains, and several subaltern officers. He also took the standard of the elector's guards, two of his own trumpeters, and killed his kettle-drummer; the elector himself and mareschal de Villeroi very narrowly escaping. Major Petry, at the head of Wyndham's carabineers, fell upon the enemy with equal briskness and resolution, put many of them to the sword, and took several prisoners, particularly the major of the Spanish guards, M. de la Guertiere, and M. de Bruan, cornet of the same, besides four officers and forty-six private men of the royal bombardiers, with their colours. The English horse and dragoons followed the chase through and beyond Judoigne, till two o'clock in the morning, as far as Maldert, being five leagues from the

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place where the action happened, and two from Louvain. During this retreat, a misfortune happened to the enemy, which not a little contributed to complete the victory. Several waggons of their vanguard breaking down stopped the way, so that their baggage and artillery which followed could not pass, nor could their troops defile in good order; perceiving that the confederate horse, who had got intelligence of this disaster, were pursuing them very close, they threw down their arms that they might escape with more facility, and retreated in the greatest confusion. Here it was that the most prisoners were taken; for in the action little or no quarter was given, the confederate horse having been highly provoked by the idle gasconades of the French musqueteers and gens d'arms, of which they were very full when they came to the attack, but paid dearly for it in the sequel.

In short, never was victory more complete; the confederates made themselves masters of all the enemy's cannon, excepting two or three, to the number of about fifty pieces; most of their baggage, near 120 colours or standards, and several pairs of kettle-drums. The enemy's loss of men, according to the most general computation, amounted to 8000 slain, and among them prince Maximilian and prince Monbason; and about 6000 private soldiers, and near 600 officers taken prisoners, which, with their deserters and wounded, made their loss not less than 20,000 men. Some accounts make the number of deserters so great, as hardly half their troops ever returned to their colours. The persons of note among the prisoners were, Messrs. Palavasini and Miziere, major-generals; the marquis de Bar, brigadier-general of the horse, the marquis de Nouan,

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brigadier-general of the foot; the marquis de la Baume, son of the mareschal de Tallard; monsieur de Montmorenci, nephew to the duke de Luxemburg, and several others.

This complete and memorable victory, under the blessing of heaven (which, during the whole course of of this war, seemed visibly to assert the justice of the confederate cause) was principally owing to the great courage, prudence, vigilance, and experience of the chief commander, the prince and duke of Marlborough, who was personally present in the hottest of the action, and gave his orders with wonderful sedateness and presence of mind. The second honours of this glorious day were undoubtedly due to monsieur d'Auverquerque, marshal of the Dutch troops, who acted with all the valour, conduct, and vigour, that became a great and experienced general. The other generals likewise distinguished themselves, and among the rest none more than his grace the duke of Argyle, who exposed his person to the greatest dangers, and received several slight wounds; nor were the inferior officers less worthy of commendation, every one behaving in their respective stations as became men who were resolved to conquer or die. All the troops fought likewise with the greatest bravery and resolution.

The Danish horse were a great weight to incline the victory on the side of the confederates, and the English had the honour to complete it, by having the greatest share in the pursuit, as some of their regiments of foot had in the engagement. Among the rest, colonel Charles Churchill, who commanded general Churchill's regiment, signalized himself, by driving with his battalion, supported by the lord Mordaunt's regiment, three

French regiments into the morass, where most of them were either destroyed or taken prisoners.

The loss of the allies did not exceed 3000 men, including prince Louis of Hesse, and Mr. Bentinck, who were slain in the engagement. The French general retired with precipitation to Brussels, while the allies took possession of Louvain, and next day encamped at Bethlem. This famous victory was attended with the immediate conquest of all Brabant. The cities of Louvain, Mecklin, Brussels, Antwerp, Ghent, and Bruges, submitted without resistance. Ostend, though secured by a strong garrison, was surrendered after a siege of te days. Mhenin, though a finished fortification, and guarded by a numerous garrison, met with the same fate. The garrison of Dendermonde surrendered themselves prisoners of war, and Aeth submitted on the same condition. The French troops were dispirited, the city of Paris was overwhelmed with consternation; Louis affected to bear his misfortune with calmness and composure, but the restraint had such an effect upon his constitution, that his physicians thought it necessary to prescribe frequent bleeding, which he accordingly underwent. At his court no mention was made of his military transactions, all was solemn, silent, and reserved.

Ramillies is a small town or village of the Austrian Netherlands, in the province of Brabant, situated between the Ghent and the Mehaigne, about ten miles north of Namur, and twenty-four south-east from Brussels. It is surrounded with a ditch and other advantages.

Negociations with the enemy, and conferences with the allies, occupied the space between the foregoing and succeeding battles, through the whole of which the duke

duke of Marlborough increased the general confidence in his talents and patriotism, notwithstanding the attempts of those in the interest of the pretender to the throne, for whom the king of France was preparing an invading force. From these, however, we hasten to a new scene of brilliant exploits, all tending to the elevation of a character hardly to be surpassed in any age. Among them we are first attracted to

THE BATTLE OF OUDENARDE.

In the year 1708, the French having surprised Ghent and Bruges, laid siege to Oudenarde, which the duke of Marlborough and prince Eugene were no sooner apprized of, than they made a most rapid march for its relief. The duke took possession of the strong camp at Lessines, which the French had intended to occupy, in order to cover the sieges. Thus disappointed, the French generals altered their resolution, abandoned Oudenarde, and began to pass the Scheldt at Gavre. The two generals of the confederates were bent upon bringing them to an engagement. Lieutenant-general Cadogan was sent with sixteen battalions and eight squadrons, to repair the roads and throw bridges over the Scheldt, below Oudenarde, the army was in motion by eight o'clock in the morning of the 1st of July, 1708, and marched with such expedition, that by two in the afternoon the horse had reached the bridge over which Cadogan and his detachment were passing. The French general, the duke de Vendôme, had posted seven battalions in the village of Heynem, situated on the banks of the Scheldt, and the French household troops were drawn up in order of battle, on the adjacent plain, oppo-

site to a body of troops under the command of major-general Rantzan, who were posted behind a rivulet that run into the river. The duke de Vendôme intended to attack the confederates when one half of their army should have passed the Scheldt. But happily the duke of Burgundy did not approve of this project. He had all along shewed an inclination to retire towards Ghent, and this propensity appeared now stronger than ever. He ordered the troops to stop short on their march at Gavre, in the greatest perplexity, not knowing which way to move. He even recalled the squadrons which were in the plain, and prepared to retire. And to this the French attribute their misfortunes which ensued.

It would have been an easy matter for the French either to have cut off the detachment of the allies, which had advanced and laid bridges over the Scheldt, or at least to have destroyed those bridges before the whole confederate army could have come up. But the dukes of Burgundy and Vendôme, who had been at variance for some days before, still differed in their opinions, and were both yet strangely at a loss what measures they should resolve upon, and what dispositions to make. This irresolution lasted till three in the afternoon, when most of the young commanders in the French army, who had more fire than prudence, and who made their court to the duke of Burgundy, thwarted all that was advised by the duke de Vendôme, declared loudly for an engagement, which, in a great measure, determined the duke of Burgundy, and the duke de Vendôme was obliged to submit.

Major-general Grimaldi was therefore ordered by the duke of Burgundy, with the horse of the king's household, to begin the attack on the right, and dislodge major

major-general Rantzan from the eminence on which he was posted; but when they came to the rivulet, and found it marshy, they were discouraged from attempting the passage, and retired towards their own right, though their army had 12,000 men more in number than the confederates, and several other advantages. This attack the duke de Vendôme disapproved of, and therefore sent monsieur Jennet, his aid-de-camp, to the left, to attack the allies on that side. But the duke of Burgundy countermanded it, upon information, as it was said, that there was an impassible morass on that side; which, however, the duke de Vendôme had passed over but an hour before. Upon this, major-general Cadogan passed the river with twelve of his sixteen battalions, between three and four o'clock, attacked the village of Heynam with such resolution (brigadier Sabine, with his brigade, being at the head) that they soon made themselves masters hereof, and found seven French battalions in it, three of which entire, and the greater part of the other four made prisoners.

The duke of Burgundy now plainly saw that there was no possibility of retreating without the greatest confusion, with the allies at their very heels. A battle being therefore unavoidable, he put his troops in motion for that end, and began to range them in proper order, but it was now too late.

Immediately after, major-general Rantzan, with the eight squadrons, and quarter-masters, passed the rivulet, and advanced into the plain where the French horse had been drawn up between the villages of Singhen and Mullen. Several of the squadrons of their rear guard being still passing through the plain, the eight squadrons, with the quarter-masters, attacked them with great vi-

gour, and drove them into the close ground and the highway, which led into the march of their own army.

In this action, the electoral prince of Hanover (afterwards king George II. of Great Britain) who had joined the army on the 22d of June, to serve as a volunteer, gave distinguished proofs of his early courage and activity. He charged, sword in hand, at the head of a squadron of Bulan's dragoons; his highness's horse was shot under him; and colonel Luschky, who commanded the squadron, was killed fighting bravely by him. Lieutenant-general Schulenburg, and several other volunteers, behaved with great resolution, and led up the squadrons. Here the French regiment of la Breteche, and several other regiments, were entirely broken; and the colonel himself being dangerously wounded, was taken, together with a great many other officers, and twelve standards and kettle drums.

The confederate army continued in the mean time to pass the bridges with all imaginable diligence. The Prussian horse formed themselves upon the right, in the same plain where the advanced guard was, and the rest of the horse followed the Prussians through the village of Heurne into the plain; but the foot, because of the length of the march, and the horse having galloped a good part of the way, came later to the bridges; so that none but the above-mentioned battalions were there till five o'clock.

The duke of Marlborough and prince Eugene, being at the head of the horse, which were forming in the plain; and observing the great want there was of infantry, sent orders to the foot, which had been employed in attacking the village, to leave their post there, and flying themselves into the hedges on the other side of the plain,

plain, whither the enemy seemed to be marching with great diligence. On that side of the plain were no more than two battalions of major-general Collin's and brigadier Grumkan's, and those the enemy attacked with great fury; but they maintained their post with equal bravery, till more foot came up to their assistance. The duke of Marlborough hereupon dispatched orders after orders to the foot to press their march, the enemy being then forming, and ready to attack the infantry, which was already there, with very unequal numbers. In the interim, the duke of Argyle arrived with 20 battalions, which were hardly posted, when the French attacked them very briskly, and drove some Prussian battalions from their post; but notwithstanding their inequality of numbers, about six in the evening they took it again, sword in hand. By this time, count Lottum was coming up to sustain this attack, with the remainder of the foot of the right; and the duke perceiving that the great stress of the battle would be on the right, sent to the left for 20 battalions. The left wing arrived later than the the right; and having passed their horse through Oudenarde, and their foot on bridges below the town, they formed themselves into two lines, with the village of Moreghem behind them.

The success which the confederates had already obtained in the several engagements near the villages of Heynem, Mullem, and Heume, made the French generals sensible they should soon be attacked on all sides; they therefore found themselves under a necessity of making a stand; to which end they posted their foot advantageously before the villages of Wenigan, Lede, and Huyze, having in their front several defiles, fenced with enclosures of hedges, ditches, or thickets, and

placed most of their cavalry on their right, near the villages of Oycke and Wirtigem.

As soon as the confederate's foot arrived, they formed themselves into two lines before the horse, and then attacked in very good order, the inclosures and villages in their front, where the French were posted; insomuch, that about seven o'clock the fire grew general, both on the right and on the left; and though the enemy gave way in most places, being sustained with fresh troops, the action was maintained with a great deal of obstinacy for a long time afterwards. The action was very hot on both sides, and the French fought for several hours with great intrepidity, but it was always with a considerable loss.

There was before the left of the wing, a kind of an opening, through which run a road that led into a plain, on the top of a hill, and which the prince of Orange-Nassau, at the head of the Dutch foot, cleared with great vigour and resolution. At the same time, the duke of Marlborough dispatched orders to the Veldt-marshal d'Auverquerque, and the count de Tilly, who were on the top of the hill near Oycke, to press the enemy as much as possible on that side. These orders were punctually obeyed; and Auverquerque ordered major-general Weeck to march with the brigade of Wassenaer and Oudenburgh, which being supported by count Tilly, with the Danish cavalry under his command, passed through a narrow defile into a field, where all the French household troops were drawn up.

The confederate troops no sooner approached, than the French, who did not in the least apprehend being attacked on that side, retired, endeavouring to shelter themselves under the hedges between Wirtigem and the

the castle of Bevern, or Broan, towards the main body of their army, where the fire was very hot. But the prince of Orange-Nassau, with count Oxenstiern coming up with four brigades of infantry, led them on with great gallantry, passed some defiles, attacked the enemy in flank, and obliged them to give way. Those who were thus retiring, being forced back into the inclosures in great disorder, and it growing beside dark, many battalions and more squadrons, flying themselves out in a desperate manner; some of them piercing through; others were cut in pieces: others passed through unperceived; and, again, others desired to capitulate.

During these transactions on the left, the duke of Marlborough, who till then had been the whole time in company with prince Eugene, visiting the field of battle, leading on, posting, and ranging the respective bodies of troops, thinking now it would be more advantageous to separate, and direct in different places, arrived there, having left the care of the right to prince Eugene, who shewed great pleasure and satisfaction in leading on the English troops, whom he saw perform wonders; insomuch, that at last the enemy finding themselves charged and borne down on every side by the confederate forces, retired in the utmost confusion, leaving great numbers of prisoners behind them. These dragoons favoured them in their retreat, and to save the troops of the household, received several discharges from the confederate infantry, and were most of them either killed or taken.

The night coming on, and the fire being directed so many several ways at once, that it was impossible to distinguish friends from foes, the confederate generals gave positive orders to their troops to give over firing,

and to let the routed enemy escape, rather than to venture putting themselves into disorder. This put an end to the slaughter, and saved the remainder of the enemy's army: for had there been but two hours more of daylight, in all probability their whole body of foot, and their right wing of horse, would have been entirely cut off, they being surrounded on almost every side.

The enemy retired under favour of the night by the road which leads through Huyze, from Oudenarde to Ghent. The duke de Vendôme proposed to take advantage of the night, and halt, to bring his army into form, that he might make an orderly retreat, but he was not heard: the general officers were so terrified, that monsieur d'Avreux alone was of his opinion. Seeing therefore that all argument was lost on men who had given themselves up to fear, monsieur de Vendôme consented to a general retreat; and the word was no sooner given, than every one, as well general and other other officers, as common soldiers, took the road towards Ghent, and fled with the utmost precipitation. All the general could do was to keep together a body of 25 squadrons of his best troops, and a proportionable number of foot, to form a rear-guard.

The confederates, in the mean time, continued under arms, hoping to renew the engagement again the next morning, and impatient in the mean time for day, that they might have a true information how far their victory had extended, of which the darkness of the night left them in ignorance. To this end, as soon as it was light, the duke of Marlborough ordered 40 squadrons from the right, commanded by the lieutenant-generals Bulan and Lumley, with a considerable body of foot, to follow and attack the enemy's rear-guard, which they did

did with great vigour; but several companies of French grenadiers being advantageously posted along the high-way leading to Ghent, killed and wounded several of the officers and private men of the confederates, especially of the regiment of Pentz, and obliged them to leave off the pursuit, there being but one road, secured by hedges and ditches, lined by the enemy's grenadiers, but no place for the confederates' cavalry to form themselves in. On this occasion, several officers of the grenadiers, commanded by major Erwin, were killed or wounded; and general Meredith was likewise slightly wounded; but the enemy, on their side, were much greater sufferers. The regiment of Risbourg, which closed their rear, was entirely ruined, and two whole companies of it taken prisoners, as was likewise brigadier Pourienne, who commanded the hindermost brigade, with several other officers.

As to the killed and wounded on either side, the allies reckoned among the first, major-general Beronsdorf, the colonels Adercasz and Bolzen, count Rantzan, and sir John Matthews, with captain Dean of the British guards, and about 800 private men; and among the wounded, lieutenant-general Natzmer, major-generals Gaudecker and Berner, the colonels Grove, Pennyfather, and four others, 160 other officers, and about 2000 private soldiers; that this loss was abundantly repaired by deserters and prisoners, Germans, Switzers, and Savoyards, who listed themselves voluntarily into the service of the allies, is, if we consider all the circumstances in this case, obvious enough. We shall only observe here in general, that, according to most accounts, the number of prisoners taken from the enemy amounted to 7000 men, among

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whom were two lieutenant-generals, two major-generals, five brigadiers, about 30 colonels, above 100 officers of the state-major, and 400 subalterns, together with 70 or 80 standards or colours. The largest list we have seen on our side make their loss to be 9,800 prisoners, officers included; 4,200 killed and wounded; 2,400 deserted; together, 16,400.

Taken, besides 10 pieces of cannon; 56 pairs of colours, 52 standards, 8 pairs of kettle-drums, and 4,500 horses; on the other hand, the lowest calculations given by the French themselves, allow their loss to be above 10,000 men.

The dukes of Burgundy and Berry, with the pretender, reached Ghent the morning after this memorable battle, by five o'clock; and about nine, the duke de Vendôme, who brought up the rear, arrived there also. As they were apprehensive of being pursued by the whole confederate army, he immediately commanded his shattered troops through Ghent to Lovendeghem, on the canal not far from that city; where, for their greater security, they cast up intrenchments, and planted upon them their artillery, which they had left at Gavre with their heavy baggage. In this strong camp they recovered, in some measure, the fright and terror of the late engagement; but, as it usually happens in such disasters, the former animosities and differences revived and increased among their generals, who laid the fault one upon the other; especially between the dukes of Burgundy and de Vendôme, who, notwithstanding the interposition of the court, could never be brought to a reconciliation.

Oudenarde is a town in the Austrian Netherlands, situated on the river Scheldt, about 13 miles south from Ghent.

Ghent. It was taken from the Spaniards by the French in the year 1658, but restored by the Pyrennean treaty. However, they retook it in 1667; and in 1674 the Spaniards besieged it, but without success. By the treaty of Nimeguen, it was again restored: but on the death of Charles II. king of Spain, the French seized it, with other towns in Flanders, for the duke of Anjou; in 1706 they surrendered it to the allies; and in 1708 the foregoing transaction took place near it.

From Oudenard the allied army had little cessation in the pursuit of glory, till after intimidating the remainder of their opponents, to whom they prepared immediately to give battle, they covered themselves with laurels at the important city of Lisle.

SIEGE OF LISLE.

The strength and riches of this city drew the attention of the confederates. The merchants of this place were of considerable service to Louis XV. and a great annoyance to his enemies, especially the maritime powers, being the principal owners of the Dunkirk privateers; it was also one of the principal keys of France, a favorite port of its monarch, and therefore newly fortified by Vauban, the famous engineer, who had exerted his utmost skill in the works, and at an immense charge rendered it almost impregnable. The reduction of a place every way so important, could not but redound very much to the honour as well as the profit of the allies; while on the other hand, this great importance caused the French to use all human means for its preservation: therefore, besides the presence of mareschal Boufflers, governor of all French Flanders, with other

great officers of skill and experience, they threw into the place 21 battalions of the best troops in France, besides 6 squadrons of dragoons, 140 horse, and 800 invalids capable of service; altogether a little army, rather than a garrison. Notwithstanding the difficulties which must necessarily attend the siege, both on account of its natural strength, its improvement by Vauban, and the numerous garrison thrown into it, not to mention the straights the allies were reduced to by being cut off from their magazines in Antwerp, and Sas-Van-Ghent; yet nothing could deter the confederates from their resolution to attack it, which made the duke de Vendome, when he was first informed of the design of the allies, say, that he did not think so wise a commander as prince Eugene was confessed to be, would venture upon so rash an enterprize: and the French officers in general boasted, that without striking a b'ow, they would oblige the allies to abandon the siege which they so confidently attempted.

Voltaire relates of this memorable siege, that a bomb fell on or near the opera-house; but the French were so secure and confident in the strength of the place, that it in no way disconcerted their entertainment.

The artillery being arrived at Pottes, and all other necessaries provided, on the 12th of August, 1708, the prince of Orange and Nassau, John William Friso, Stadtholder of Friesland, was detached with 31 battalions to take post at Marquette, on the Lower Deule, the river on which Lisle lies, within half a league of Lisle; and lieutenant-general Wood, with 34 squadrons, marched to Potteghem. The same day, the army under the duke of Marlborough, who covered the siege, marched from Werwick to Herchin, and prince Eugene

Eugene having passed the Marquette at Pont-a-Tresin, invested the town of Lisle between that place and the upper Deule; the prince of Orange-Nassau did the like with his detachment between the upper and lower Deule, while the duke of Marlborough lay at a convenient distance to cover them. The chief engineers were Des Roques and Du Mey, each of whom was to have the direction of a different attack; the lines of circumvallation were marked out on the same day, and the pioneers set to work.

On the 18th, in the morning, the prince of Orange's valet-de-chambre had his head shot off while he was dressing his highness, which passed over the prince's shoulder within six inches of his face, and besmeared it as well as his clothes with the blood and brains of his servant; upon which his highness removed his quarters.

Prince Eugene, who directed the operations of this siege, soon found he had more difficulties to struggle with than a numerous garrison, though consisting of the best troops in France, commanded by the mareschal Boufflers; for, as we have observed, the enemy had cut off his communication with his magazines about Sas-Van-Ghent and Antwerp, therefore he was obliged to bring his convoys along a narrow causeway from Ostend, exposed to the attack of the enemy, whose army was superior to that of the allies. This important siege was carried on with 50 battalions, 6 of whom were Imperialists, 9 Palatines, 5 Hessians, and 30 from the grand army; and all matters being put into a proper posture for a vigorous siege, the trenches were opened on the 22d of August, about eight in the evening. On the following night, 320 grenadiers were commanded

to attack the chapel of St. Magdalen, wherein the enemy had 120 grenadiers; the attack was sharp, but the superiority of numbers prevailed, for having killed about twenty, the rest surrendered. The besiegers had in this action above 30 men killed and wounded, some officers, and M. du Mey, director of the attacks, received a small contusion.

The 26th, the besieged re-took the chapel, having made a sally with most of the grenadiers and two squadrons of dragoons; but the prince of Orange-Nassau being in the trenches, caused two battalions to advance, who re-took it, and caused the enemy to retire with precipitation into the counterscarp. The 27th, in the morning, the besiegers fired 50 pieces of cannon and 20 mortars upon the town, with such good success, that they beat down one of the enemy's batteries. On the 29th, early in the morning, the confederate troops stormed a fortified mill on the right, near the gate of St. Andrew, with 300 grenadiers, beat the enemy from that post, and took several prisoners; but at the same time the enemy made so terrible a fire from the ramparts, that they were obliged to quit it. The next day 300 grenadiers were commanded to retake that mill, but the enemy set it on fire, and abandoned the post. On the last day of August, the prince of Holstein-Beck relieved the trenches, and each battalion was ordered to furnish six waggons to carry stones near the batteries, to throw the same with mortars into the enemy's works. The 1st of September, at night, the imperialists relieved the trenches, and the besiegers carried on the sap towards the salliant angle of the counterscarp of the horn-work, within 50 paces of the pallisades; and a vast quantity of fascines and gabions were prepared for mak-

ing

ing their lodgment on the counterscarp. At the same time, the breach being very wide, and the ditch being almost filled up with the ruins of the walls, mareschal Boufflers was apprehensive that the town would fall into the hands of the confederates, and therefore ordered several of the largest pieces of cannon to be removed into the citadel. On the 4th, the prince of Holstein-Beck relieved the trenches, as did also lieutenant-general Sparr on the next day; and the approaches were carried on so successfully, that it was judged the counterscarp would be stormed the same evening; but this was deferred till the 7th.

Whilst the siege of Lisle was thus vigorously carried on, the dukes of Burgundy, Vendome, and Berwick made two or three feint advances, as if they intended to attack the duke of Marlborough, who, upon those motions, gave orders for his army to be ready to march upon the first occasion; and in the mean time detached the earl of Athlone, with 1500 horse, to observe the enemy. The earl advancing towards Leuses, his vanguard fell in with 100 horse detached from the duke of Berwick's army, whom they charged, defeated, and took 30 prisoners. The enemy made several marches and counter-marches, whereby it was apparent that they designed to attempt the raising of the siege. The duke of Burgundy likewise sent a spy to endeavour to get into Lisle and to acquaint the marechal Boufflers that, their army being on this side Tournay, he might depend upon being relieved; but the messenger happened to be discovered and seized by the allies. Upon this the duke of Marlborough, in expectation of an engagement, ordered the confederate army, on the 5th of September, to march to the ground marked out for them, in order

to give the enemy battle; and being reinforced by prince Eugene, with 72 squadrons and 26 battalions, from the siege (with which troops came also king Augustus, and the landgrave of Hesse, as volunteers); also lieutenant-general Fagen, having marched with incredible speed out of Dutch Flanders and Brabant, and joined the confederate army with seven squadrons and as many battalions, they continued till ten o'clock in order of battle; but the enemy declined coming to an engagement, so that the confederate generals ordered the tents to be pitched again; and the detachment of prince Eugene returned to the camp before Lisle, except some Imperial and Hessian squadrons. The generals concluding that the enemy had no other design than to give them frequent alarms, to retard the siege, and straighten them in their forage, without venturing an engagement, 100 men out of each battalion were ordered to cast up an entrenchment in front of their army, which would both secure the troops from any sudden surprize, and the besiegers from interruption.

The confederates thus finding it impracticable to bring the enemy to a battle, thought fit to storm the counterscarp of Lisle, which had been delayed by these movements; and on the 7th of September, in the morning, they made the necessary dispositions for that enterprize, having received a reinforcement from the grand army of 700 grenadiers, and the like number of fusileers, and 600 workmen: 800 grenadiers, supported by the like number of fusileers, 30 carpenters, and 200 workmen, were commanded for the attack of the right, between the lower Deule and the gate of St. Andrew, under the direction of the Sieur des Rogues; and 1600 grenadiers, supported by the like number of fusileers, 30 carpenters,

ters, and 200 workmen, were commanded for the attack of the left, between the river and the gate of St. Magdalen, under the direction of the Sieur du Mey. The batteries of the confederates made a continual fire before the attacks on all the bastions, to disturb the enemy; and after the signal of three guns, and a general discharge of all the artillery, the attack was made with so much order and courage on the side of the officers and soldiers, that the counterscarp was taken in a short time, notwithstanding it was defended by 200 men of each regiment in the garrison; and the besiegers lodged themselves in the covered way; but the enemy made such a terrible fire from their outworks, with their cannon, mortars, and small arms, and sprung three mines in the covered way, that there was no less than 1000 men wounded and slain.

The confederates having made themselves masters of the counterscarp, endeavoured to perfect their works with all possible application. In the night between the 9th and 10th, the enemy made a sally, but were repulsed with considerable loss. On the 11th, the Imperialists relieved the trenches, and an adjutant came from the grand army to acquaint prince Eugene, that the French were advanced within sight of the intrenchments, and seemed to have a design to attack them; whereupon the prince marched with 15 battalions and the cavalry, to reinforce the duke of Marlborough. The duke being at dinner, received advice that the French foragers were advanced within a quarter of a league from the confederate camp, and were sustained by several regiments. Lieutenant-general Wood, who happened to be at table, desired his permission that he might charge them with two battalions only. The duke granted

granted his request; and having detached the regiment of sir William Temple, and another English battalion for that enterprize; they fell upon the enemy, who they repulsed as far as Ennevelin, where they had posted some forces in a castle, which was surrounded with ditches. The English endeavoured to dislodge them from thence, and charged the French with great bravery; but the duke de Vendome caused all his grenadiers, and the picquets of six brigades, which were encamped in the front of his army, near Pont-a-Marque, to support his troops in the castle; whereupon the two battalions were obliged to retire after a very stout resistance, and retreated in good order, with the loss of about six or seven officers, and near 200 killed or wounded. The next morning the French troops began to be in motion, and about two in the afternoon the allies saw the head of their army, consisting of several battalions and squadrons, with their workmen, who levelled the ground between them and the allies intrenchments. The confederate generals now thought the enemy was resolved upon an attack, so that the troops were immediately ordered to their arms, and the regiments commanded to their respective posts behind their intrenchments. Prince Eugene likewise joined the army; and at the same time orders were sent to the earl of Albemarle (who was then between Oudenarde and Menin, with 30 squadrons, to guard a convoy from Brussels), to return to the camp with the utmost expedition; and accordingly, on the 12th, by break of day, arrived with his detachment.

About four in the afternoon, the enemy began to cannonade the confederate camp, directing their fire against the village of Entiers, where the brigadiers Evans

Evans and Westmuller were posted with two brigades of foot, and were answered by the artillery planted on the intrenchments, which continued till it was dark. The confederate troops, who lay upon their arms all night, were the next day formed in order of battle; and early in the morning the enemy renewed their cannonading with between 30 and 40 pieces, chiefly 24-pounders; and the allies did the like, with almost equal execution on both sides. At length the enemy withdrew their cannon, and the duke of Marlborough and prince Eugene, perceiving that they had no other design than, by frequent alarms, to delay the storming of the outworks of Lisle, the troops were ordered to encamp in such a manner, as to be immediately ready to receive the French, provided they should make any further attempts; and the works about the village of Entiers were repaired and enlarged for the greater security of that post. Prince Eugene being satisfied that the confederate camp was sufficiently secured, he returned on the 13th of September, with his troops, to the siege.

In the mean time the French generals were contriving means to distress the confederate army, in such a manner as to oblige prince Eugene to raise the siege; and in order to this, they at last found an opportunity of engaging some of the inhabitants at Aeth in a conspiracy to deliver up that town; while on the other hand, hey were indefatigable in concerting measures for cutting off the convoys, of which the camp before Lisle stood in need. The former scheme failed; for before the conspiracy at Aeth was ripe for execution, it was discovered; but in the latter part of their design they succeeded, for after various motions of both armies, they began to throw up lines for securing the fortress of

the Scheldt, and worked at them so hard, that they appeared rather like the fortifications of a town, than intrenchments thrown up in haste, notwithstanding they were seven miles in length. On these they laid cannon, and posted the greatest part of their army upon them, so that they effectually stopped all communication by the Scheldt. Upon which the States ordered all that was necessary both for the army or for the siege, to be sent to Ostend; and if the French had begun their designs with the intercepting this way of conveyance, the siege must have been raised for want of ammunition to carry it on.

The duke of Burgundy was very uneasy for want of intelligence from Lisle, which put Dubois, a captain in his army, on one of the boldest enterprizes which, perhaps, was ever undertaken by a single man. Determined to attempt getting into the city, notwithstanding the strict guard kept by the besiegers, he undressed himself, and having hid his clothes, swam over seven canals and ditches, and so got into the town. Marshal Boufflers having provided him with clothes, conducted him to both the attacks, shewed him the condition all things were in, and having written a letter to the duke of Burgundy, he rolled it up in wax, which the captain put in his mouth; he then returned the same way he came, with the intelligence the duke of Burgundy wanted; by which it was said mareschal Boufflers acquainted him that if one of the enemy's convoys could be intercepted, the siege would be raised; and that he would undertake the place should hold out till the 9th or 10th of October.

On the 12th of September, about nine in the morning, the besieged came out of the town in great numbers

bers, with four colours, and attacked the trenches on the left in six different places, having at the same time another body of troops in the covert way ready to sustain them; but before they could do any other damage than the overturning a few gabions they were engaged by the next battalions in the trenches, and obliged to retreat in great disorder, having had above 60 men killed, and among them several officers; and of the confederates 14 men were killed, and near 30 wounded. Lieutenant-general Arnam continued that night in the trenches, which were relieved in the night, between the 10th and 14th, by the prince of Holstein Beck; but the works were not advanced very much, because the troops which had joined the grand army with prince Eugene, were not returned to their respective posts. However, they arrived on the 14th a little before break of day. The same night the trenches were relieved by lieutenant-general Sparr, with 10 battalions as usual; and the besiegers began to work upon some mines, in order to fill up the ditch of the tenaille, and they placed a great many gabions on the pallisades. On the 17th the trenches were relieved with 12 battalions; and on the 20th, the enemy was driven with loss from a traverse in the covert-way; the assault was then to have been made, but the enemy having burned their galleries and bridges, it was deferred. The trenches being relieved, the grenadiers marched, and mounted the breach of the tenaille, obliged the enemy to retire, and made a good lodgment. The left having possessed themselves of a place of arms on the counterscarp of the tenaille, drove the enemy out of the counterscarp before the grand breach, making a second lodgment; but the enemy drove them from these lodgments, and killed several.

Prince

Prince Eugene, to re-animate the grenadiers, came out of the trenches, rallied them thrice at their head, but receiving a wound over his eye, was forced to retire for it to be dressed, while the duke of Marlborough carried on the siege, and at the same time covered it, being in both commands at the same time. On the 23d, he gave orders for storming: the troops drove the enemy from the tenaille on the left, and made a great lodgment along the covert-way. The vigour of the enemy abating, which was owing to want of ammunition, mareschal Boufflers found means to let the duke de Vendome know it, who sent a body of horse and dragoons, each man having a bag of 40 lbs. weight of gunpowder; but what by the vigilance of the general, and by their powder taking fire by accident, they were mostly killed by our men, or blown up by their own powder.

Vendome having laid a design of intercepting a convoy coming from Ostend, the duke ordered 12 battalions and 800 horse, with 10 squadrons, to guard the convoy; but supposing that the French might be too strong, he reinforced it with 12 battalions more, to join the detachment between Menin and Ostend, while major-general Cadogan marched with some horse and foot to meet the convoy. The count de la Motte, by command of the duke of Berwick, marched from Ghent with 22,000 men, and came up with 6000 of the confederates, who guarded the convoy, which occasioned one of the most glorious and remarkable actions recorded in history.

In this battle the count de la Motte being obliged to retire, gave the convoy an opportunity to arrive the same night unmolested and safe at Menia. If this large convoy

convoy of 800 waggons had been intercepted, the siege of the city must inevitably have been raised; for the duke of Marlborough had sent several supplies from his army to carry on the siege, and could now spare no more. He began himself to despair of the success of the undertaking, and prepared the army and besiegers for raising the siege, being in great anxiety for the safety of so large a convoy, upon which the whole success of the siege depended. On the 30th of September prince Eugene visited the trenches, which were relieved with five battalions on the right, and seven on the left. The beginning of the next month, 300 grenadiers joined the troops, and attacked the ravelin, in which they succeeded so well, that they made a lodgment on it, forcing the enemy behind the traverses to leap into the water, where most of them were either killed or drowned; so that now the besiegers were masters of both the counter-guards and the ravelins: they next finished the batteries on the counterscarp, to ruin those of the enemy on the courtine, and to beat down the bridge of communication which they had from a place of arms to the ravelin. After springing mines and other operations, towards the latter end of October, all the necessary dispositions for a general storm were made, by draining the ditch, making apertures in the walls, working on the galleries, filling up the ditch, perfecting their lodgments and places of arms, and lastly of finishing their batteries, which consisted of 45 pieces of cannon and 55 mortars; to supply which, a new convoy of 20,000lbs. weight of powder, with a great number of bombs, cannon-balls, and hand-grenades, arrived at the siege from Ostend. These began to fire with such success, that the besieged beat a parley on the 22d, and

offered to capitulate for the town; whereupon hostages were exchanged, and it was agreed mareschal Boufflers should capitulate for the garrison with prince Eugene of Savoy, and that the magistrates and council of the town should propose their own terms for themselves, and the castellary of Lisle, to the field-deputies of the States-general.

The French delivered up Magdalen-gate that afternoon: the horse under the chevalier de Luxemberg, who had got into the town with the supplies, marched to Douay. The French garrison to retire into the citadel. The prince of Holstein-Beck being appointed governor of Lisle, marched in with two English and 13 other battalions, and a detachment of horse. In this siege the French lost 7000 men, and the allies near 9000. On the 29th of November the besieged commenced hostilities by the discharge of five pieces of cannon; the allies contracted their line of circumvallation, erected the batteries of cannon, and carried on their approaches by sap: on the 30th, the allies lodged themselves by the pallisades of the first covert-way, and made themselves masters of the counterscarp, except two places of arms; prepared fascines, continued to drain the ditch, made several openings into it, passed the ditch in the night, and lodged themselves on the glacis of the second covert-way without any loss.

On the 1st of December, they raised batteries on the second counterscarp, which were finished on the 5th; and then prince Eugene sent to mareschal Boufflers to surrender if he expected an honourable capitulation; if he would give up the citadel before the batteries began to play; otherwise to expect no better terms than to be made prisoner of war, with his garrison.

The

The governor, whose stock of ammunition was nigh exhausted, being informed that the communication was open and free between Brussels and Lisle, thought fit to prevent the consequences of a breach being made in the body of the citadel, by beating a parley on the 8th of December. Hostages being exchanged, the articles were signed the day following, and on the 10th, the mareschal, with the whole garrison, marched out, and were conducted to Douay.

Lisle was the capital of French Flanders, a large, rich, and strong city, then next to Paris, and reckoned the chief place in the king of France's dominions. It stands among the pools and marshes of the Scheldt, 12 miles west from Tournay, 28 north of Douay, 26 south-west of Ghent, 37 south-east of Dunkirk, and 38 almost west of Mons.

From this important siege, circumstances rapidly led to

THE BATTLE OF WYNENDALE.

After the detachments, which were sent to cover the march of the waggons from Ostend to the siege of Lisle, had joined at Thurut the 27th of September, 1708. General Webb (who, as eldest major-general, commanded in chief,) received advice that major Savory, of the regiment of Gethern, had possessed himself of the post at Oudenburg; whereupon he sent 600 grenadiers, under the command of colonel Preston; a battalion of Orkneys, under the command of colonel Hamilton, with that of Fune, commanded by colonel Voigt, the whole under the command of brigadier Landsberg, to reinforce that post. The 28th, at eight

in the morning, all the horse under major-general Cadogan, were ordered to Hoglade, to wait the arrival of the convoy there, except 150 horse, which were sent the night before, under the command of count Lottum, to Oudenburg, to carry orders to the two battalions, and 600 grenadiers to guard the convoy to Cocklaer, and afterwards to rejoin the foot at Thurout. About noon count Lottum returned to Thurout, with advice, that in his way to Ichtegem he met with an advanced guard, which he pushed into the plain, where he observed 16 squadrons mounting in great haste on the alarm which their advanced guard gave them; whereupon he thought it necessary to return in all haste to give the general an account of it.

On this advice, all the foot, consisting of 22 battalions, count Lottum with his 150 horse making the advanced guard, with the quarter-masters and grenadiers that were not detached, were ordered to march immediately to gain the village of Ichtegem, by the way of Wynendale.

As soon as the advanced guard got to Wynendale, they perceived the enemy in the opening of the plain, whereupon the quarter-masters and grenadiers were drawn up in order of battle. Major-general Webb and count Nassau Woudenberg, at the head of the 150 horse, advanced to reconnoitre, the enemy giving orders at the same time to the foot to advance, and form themselves as fast as possible in the plain. The 150 horse were left at the opening of the plain, under the command of count Lottum. To amuse the enemy, and to embarrass them the more, the quarter-masters and grenadiers were posted in a low coppice, on that side

side of the plain where the enemy were expected to pass.

As soon as our troops passed out of the defile into the plain, major-general Webb drew them up in order of battle, posting them in the opening, between the wood of Wynendale and the coppice on the other side, where the quarter-masters and grenadiers were posted. We had scarce got six battalions into the opening, when the enemy began to cannonade us with forty pieces of cannon, whereof ten were of three bores.

But notwithstanding the great fire of the enemy, the 150 horse kept their ground, which produced the desired effect, in giving the general time to form his foot in two lines. The left wing was extended beyond the low coppice, as well to prevent the enemy passing that way, as to cover our flank. On our right flank was posted, in the wood of Wynendale, the regiment of Henkelum; and on our flank on the left, the regiment of the hereditary prince of Russia, commanded by colonel Rhader, with orders not to discover themselves, nor fire till they should take the enemy in flank. Some platoons of grenadiers were advanced 40 paces upon the right and left, with the same orders; and the quarter-masters were also posted on a road to the left, that crossed through the before-mentioned low coppice.

The enemy, after three hours cannonading, advanced towards us on the plain, in twelve lines, six of which were horse and six foot. Count Lottum was hereupon ordered to retire, and post himself 300 paces behind the foot, which he did in very good order. The French continued to march straight up to us with 40 battalions and 60 squadrons. But the general perceiv-

ing they extended themselves to the right in the coppice, he sent count Nassau to observe their motions, who immediately ordered thither the regiment of Grumbach, commanded by colonel Beschefer; and brigadier Eltz, being come up with the last regiment, was posted on the right, in the wood of Wynendale.

About half a quarter of an hour before the engagement began, brigadier Lansberg, with two battalions and 600 grenadiers that had been detached, having advice that the enemy advanced to attack us, rejoined us just time enough to form a third line. Some minutes after the enemy began the attack, marching within 150 paces of our flank on the right, where the battalions, who hid themselves according to the general's order, and who were not to fire till the French flank came opposite to them, gave them such a warm welcome, that their left wing gave into their centre, and the regiment of the hereditary prince, which was posted on the flank on our left much about the same distance, did not miss the opportunity of their disorder, to give them a very vigorous discharge, which put their whole line in confusion. Nevertheless the enemy pushed on, and put two of the allies' battalions in disorder; but the Swiss regiment of Albemarle, under the command of colonel Hirtzell, advancing upon their horse that were endeavouring to penetrate, engaged them long enough to give time to general Webb and count Nassau to bring up the regiments of Bernsdorff, Gauvain, and Lindeboom, to supply the room of those that were pressed, which was done in a moment. However, the enemy, supported by so many lines, made another attempt to penetrate; but our battalions rather advanced than gave way; though general Webb gave orders against advancing, fearing

fearing lest that might render the fire of our flanks useless.

This precaution had all the desired success; the regiments and grenadiers making such a continual fire as forced these two wings upon their centre, and obliged the whole to retire in the greatest confusion, notwithstanding all the efforts their officers could make, by encouragement or violence, to keep them up; so that they only fired at a great distance on our lines, which ours returned, advancing by platoons, as at their exercise, with all the order imaginable.

Major-general Cadogan, who came up some time after the action began, offered to charge the enemy in their disorder with two squadrons of horse, the other four for which he had sent not arriving till near seven at night; but it was not thought advisable to expose so small a number to charge the enemy, who had brought up all their horse to favour their retreat. The battle lasted two hours, and was very hot; and the allies had 912 officers and soldiers killed or wounded. The enemy lost between 6000 and 7000 men: they made their retreat in so great a confusion, that they left most of their cannon in a wood, which they did not carry off till next day at eleven o'clock, after hearing that the convoy had passed Rousselaar. The allies remained on the field of battle till two o'clock the next morning, having first carried off all our wounded and several of the enemy. This victory is the more surprising, that by reason of several detachments, general Webb had not above 600 men in the action, and the enemy, by their own accounts, had 22,000.

The Spanish troops were the greatest sufferers in this action; and they made terrible complaints of the French, who

who formed the left wing of the enemy's detachment, for not having supported them as they might, or ought to have done: but the French, on their side, were as forward in complaining of the Spaniards, and laid the ill success of this enterprize on their want of courage and conduct.

Notwithstanding this great superiority of the enemy, major-general Webb made this bold and noble stand with so much presence of mind, posted his men so advantageously, asked the advice of the officers under him with such modesty (a rare and commendable virtue in so young a commander), and sustained the enemy's repeated efforts with so much bravery, resolution, and conduct, as will tend to his immortal honour; and as this critical victory, which prevented the raising the siege of Lisle, was owing chiefly to his prudent management, and other military abilities, so that eminent service was afterwards deservedly acknowledged, not only by the unanimous thanks of the commons of Great Britain, but also in a distinguishing manner by the king of Prussia, who bestowed upon him the *Order of Generosity*. To give this brave and prudent commander the honour justly due to him, though he could not venture, being so inferior in number, to leave the advantageous ground he was on to pursue the enemy, which, in the consternation they were in, might probably have ended in the total destruction of their whole detachment, yet so unequal an action, and so shameful a flight of the enemy, with such considerable loss, was looked upon as one of the most extraordinary things that had happened during the whole war.

Whilst major-general Webb engaged the enemy with so unequal a force at Wynendale, the convoy, marching undis-

undisturbed, arrived that night in safety at Rousselaar, the next day at Menin, and on the last of September passed through the duke of Marlborough's army (which the day before moved from Lannoy to Roncq, with the right at Pont-a-Marque, and the left at Menin), in its way to the camp before Lisle, where it arrived in perfect safety.

Wynendale is a small village bordering on a wood of the same name in Spanish Flanders, 28 miles north from Lisle, and 11 south-west from Bruges.

It was expected after the close of the year 1708, that a general peace would have been concluded, as Louis XIV. condescended to offer very favourable concessions; but the allied generals, who were made plenipotentiaries, proud with success, rejected his proposals, and made such demands that they knew Louis would never consent to them, nor permit them to be repeated in his hearing, had he not been reduced to the last degree of distress. The monarch who had given laws to all Europe, now felt the complicated pangs of grief, shame, and indignation: he submitted to the conditions he had offered to be published, with the demands of the allies, and the proceedings of the whole negociation. His subjects having viewed his conduct, exclaimed against the cruelty and arrogance of his enemies: though impoverished and half starved by the war, they resolved to spend their whole substance in his support, and rather to fight his battles without pay, than leave him to the dire necessity of making peace on those dishonourable terms. Animated by these sentiments, they made efforts to amaze the whole world. In June, 1709, 120,000 fighting men were ready to take the field, one half of which number it was thought the monarch could

could not have raised. Such were the circumstances which led to

THE BATTLE OF BLAREGNIES, or MALPLAQUET.

The allies opened the campaign with the siege of Tournay, and after the reduction of that place they proceeded towards Mons with an intention to reduce it also. They passed the Scheldt on the 3d day of September, and detached the prince of Hesse to attack the French lines from Hannie to the Sombre, which were abandoned at his approach. On the 7th day of September, marechal de Boufflers arrived at the French camp at Quievrain, content to act in the inferior capacity to the mareschal Villiars, although his superior in point of seniority. The duke of Marlborough having received advice that the French were on their march to attack the advanced body under the command of the prince of Hesse, decamped from Havre in order to support that detachment. On the 9th the allies made a motion, by which their left wing came so near the enemy about two o'clock in the afternoon, that they cannonaded each other till evening; but the right wing of the allies being too far off to come up to the place of action at the time, there was too little day-light left to attack the enemy. The duke of Marlborough, prince Eugene, and the prince-royal of Prussia passed the night with Mr. Gosling, one of the field-deputies of state, that they might be ready if the enemy made any attempt. Villiers, though something superior in number of men, was so far from any design of attacking the allies, that on the contrary he began to fortify his camp, which was by nature very strong and advantageous, with great

great assiduity. Besides the thick hedges, which like a chain ran across his whole camp, he made deep lines to cover his infantry on the left, and on his right he cast up those intrenchments defended in convenient places with heavy artillery; and besides all this, he had cut down a number of trees, and laid them across the road to obstruct the confederates' horse: he also cut down the hedges behind the lines, for the more easy march of his cavalry to support the infantry as occasion might require. So that his camp may be called, with some degree of propriety, a regular fortified citadel, situated behind the woods of la Merte and Taniers, in the neighbourhood of Malplaquet.

The confederate army, which amounted to above 100,000 men, encamped with its right near Sort and Bleron, and its left on the edge of the wood of Lagniere, the head-quarters being at Blaregnies. Had the confederate generals resolved to attack the enemy on the first day of their approach, the battle would not have been so bloody, and the victory more decisive, for the French had not at that time began to fortify their camp: but a large detachment of the allies, which had been employed in the siege of Tournay, had not yet joined the main army, therefore the battle was postponed till the arrival of this reinforcement, and this gave the French time to cover themselves in such a manner, that they were almost inaccessible. The troops from Tournay joined the duke of Marlborough on the 11th of September, very early in the morning, at which time the confederates began to erect batteries. They raised one of 28 pieces of cannon on the left, another of 40 in the centre, and the rest of the artillery was distributed on the right. A very thick fog favoured the erecting of these

these batteries, which were completed half an hour past seven, when the weather clearing up, the two armies had a full view of each other.

At eight o'clock the signal for attack was given, by a discharge of fifty pieces of cannon, and the cannonading continued very brisk on both sides. Prince Eugene advanced with his left into the wood of Sart; and 86 battalions of that wing, commanded by general Schulemberg, the duke of Argyle, and other generals, and 22 battalions under the command of count Lottom, attacked the enemy with such bravery, that notwithstanding the barricades of felled trees, and other obstacles they met in their way, after an hour's resistance they drove the French out of their intrenchments in the woods of Sarts and Taniers. The design of this attack was to drive the enemy out of those woods, and then to make an effort on their intrenchments on the plain, all which was happily effected. Thus the infantry of the enemy's left wing became ruined. General Withers, with 19 battalions, attacked the enemy behind the woods of Great Blaregnies and Taniers with the same vigour and success. Thirty-six Dutch battalions, commanded by the prince of Orange and baron Fagal, advanced against the enemy's right, posted in the wood of la Merte, and covered with three entrenchments. Here the battle was maintained with the most desperate courage on both sides. The Dutch obliged the French to quit the first entrenchment, but were repulsed from the second with great slaughter. The prince of Orange still persisted in his efforts with incredible perseverance and intrepidity, even after two horses had been killed under him, and the greater part of his officers either slain or disabled. He at length forced the second

entrenchment, and entered the third, when M. de Artagnan poured in upon him with amazing rapidity such a torrent of men as might have overwhelmed him; but he avoided the heaviest part of the fire by retreating a few paces, and having recollected himself from his surprize, he took the colours of the regiment of Mey, and with as much unconcernedness as intrepidity, carried them to the intrenchments, and planted them there, calling out to his troops, "Hither, hither, my friends, hither to me!" The men, stimulated by this noble example, were quickly rallied, and brought again to the charge, but d'Artagnan, who fought with an obstinacy of courage that seemed to border on despair, with superiority of numbers, obliged him to retire behind the hedges.

In the mean time all things went well on the left, and the duke of Marlborough finding it hazardous to make a motion towards the right in the heat of the action, to recover the repulse there, thought proper to pursue the advantage he had gained. He pressed forward very hard, insomuch that the enemy were obliged to retire before him. As soon as he perceived them drawing off their cannon, he ordered the earl of Orkney, with 15 battalions, to attack, and, if possible, force their entrenchments in the plain between Sart and Jansart, and if he succeeded, to maintain the post. The earl's resolution was crowned with success after a short dispute, and the horse of the confederates now advanced, commanded in person by the duke of Marlborough, prince Eugene, and the prince of Hesse; the French king's household troops at first put them into some disorder; but the duke quickly rallied them, and made his troops put on so good a face, that the enemy soon fell into dis-

order, and dispersed. However, they made an excellent retreat towards Baray, under the conduct of Boufflers, who took post between Quesnay and Valenciennes.

Prince Eugene's share of this victory was very considerable, as he commanded a separate army from the duke of Marlborough. The prince's left wing attacked the enemy immediately after the signal of attack was given; of the wood of Sart, Villars and he were masters alternately several hours. Prince Eugene may be truly said to have waded through blood to the enemy's intrenchments. In this obstinate fight, some battalions having expended all their ammunition, and lost their bayonets, fought several minutes with the butts of their musquets. A furious fight of four hours was maintained with the utmost bravery, at the head of the intrenchments, in which both French and Imperialists were vanquished and victorious by turns. At length victory declared in favor of the latter, but not till almost all their infantry were cut to pieces; the cavalry then came in, and sustained several severe shocks; but the duke of Marlborough making at this time a vigorous effort, greatly favoured prince Eugene, who seconded the opposition in the best manner possible, by making a furious onset. These attacks decided the contest; for the enemy's lines were pushed one upon the other, and all opposition seemed at an end. Prince Eugene received a severe wound in his head, but it did not oblige him to retire. When he was persuaded to have it dressed, he calmly answered, "To what purpose if we are to die here? if we live, there will be time enough in the evening!"

The

The allies had not many trophies to boast of their victory: only about 16 pieces of artillery, and about 40 colours and standards, were taken, with a good number of prisoners. The loss of the enemy was never known; it was computed by the most modest accounts at 15,000 men; they lost no officer of note. Among their wounded was the chevalier de St. George, who charged ten times at the head of the household troops; his hurt was in the arm by a sword in his last attack; and the marechal de Villars was wounded in the knee, which obliged him to be carried off the field of battle. Afterwards he confidently asserted, that if he himself had not been wounded, the confederates would certainly have been defeated.

Considering the situation of the French, the number of their troops, and the manner in which they were fortified, nothing could be more rash and imprudent than the attack which cost the lives of so many brave men, and was attended with so little advantage to the conquerors (the siege and surrender of Mons). Perhaps the duke of Marlborough thought a victory absolutely necessary to support his sinking interest at the court of Great Britain. His intention was to have given battle before the enemy could have intrenched themselves; but prince Eugene insisted upon delaying the action until the reinforcement should arrive from Tournay; and the extraordinary carnage is imputed to the impetuosity of the prince of Orange, whose aim through the whole was to raise himself into consideration with the States-General by signal acts of military prowess.

This battle was the more remarkable, as it was in reali

reality an engagement between two separate armies on each side. Prince Eugene commanded a complete body of 50,000 men, with wings of horse on the right and left; and the duke of Marlborough another entire army, of which the English made the right, and the Dutch the left. On the other side, the marechal duke de Villars commanded a separate army of French on the left, drawn up against prince Eugene; and the marechal de Boufflers another on on the right, with that under the duke of Marlborough.

In commemoration of this bloody battle two medals were struck off.

Blaregnies, the little town nearest to which this battle was fought, is seven miles from Mons in Hainault. The adjacent villages have also given their names to it, as Malplaquet, Blanregnies, and Taniers.

This is the last decisive battle of Marlborough, though it did not conclude the war, which lasted yet four years longer. He afterwards forced the lines of marshal Villars, and laid siege to Bouchain, which surrendered to his arms, thus leaving scarce any obstruction between his army and Paris. The change of disposition in the court, however, interrupted his martial as well as political career, and he was superseded by the duke of Ormond, less advantageously in every respect for the queen's allies, and perhaps less honourably for the British nation.

His royal mistress died in 1714, after a glorious and successful reign, being succeeded, according to the act for obtaining a protestant succession, by the elector of Hanover, afterwards George I. descended in the ma-

terna

female line from Elizabeth, daughter of James I. With queen Anne ended the direct line of the Stuarts.

It remains but to this section to record the lives and merits of the two great generals, whose actions it has chiefly recorded—the prince Eugene, of Savoy, and the duke of Marlborough.

FRANCIS EUGENE (the first in rank) the son of Eugene Maurice, general of the Swiss and Grisons, and the Donna Olympia Mancini, niece to cardinal Mazarine, was born in 1663, and at seven years old committed for tuition to the Sorbonne. His father who was also governor of Champaigne in France, and earl of Soissons, dying soon after, the French king granted to him the dignity of an abbot, as a step to a cardinal's hat; but the church was little suited to the spirit which he early displayed, and after continuing the clerical habit for a time, he solicited, and was refused a military employment. He had before distinguished himself by a proficiency in the belles lettres, and in having, on the banishment of his mother from the French court to the Low Countries, protested against its injustice, and vowed vengeance against those who were the occasion of it. Many other instances have not been wanting of that political blindness which has hurried the best members of society from their country and its interests.

One of the brothers of Eugene, prince Philip, had already been promised, by the ambassador of the emperor, a regiment of horse; with him, therefore, he retired to Vienna, and soon became a favorite, with every mark of respect from his imperial majesty. Nor was he wanting after his departure in many offers from the king of France; but they were now too late, and he became an adopted German.

The first opportunity of displaying his military prowess occurred in the irruption of the Turks into the empire, which preceded the siege of Vienna. In a skirmish, the horse of prince Philip fell under him, and caused his death, whose command was in consequence resigned to his brother Eugene, who distinguished himself particularly at the raising of the siege, attracting the notice and consideration of the number of great men present. On his return to Vienna, the duke of Newhausel presented him to the emperor, with this striking prognostication:—"May it please your majesty, this young Savoyard will some time or other be the greatest captain of the age." That it was fulfilled need not be added. He continued to rise in the favour of the imperial court, and was advanced to the first military offices.

At the siege of Belgrade, in 1688, he was conspicuous, and received a cut through his helmet by a sabre, the perpetrator of which in an instant lay dead at his feet. The next year Louis XIV. invaded the empire, and Eugene was chosen to command the imperial army in Italy, where he distinguished himself in a peculiar manner; in consequence of which, at the conclusion of the war, his old master proposed to him every thing he could wish, but without the power of influencing him to return.

In 1697, being commander in chief of the emperor's army in Hungary, he defeated the Turks, commanded by the Grand Signior in person, and by that means concluded the war, which had lasted 15 years. His talents, however, were not long to lie dormant, for the war of the Spanish succession again led him to Italy, [illegible]-pose marshal Villeroy, at the head of the myriads of

of France, with no diminution of his former success. He surprized Cremona by a secret march, and gaining access through the ruins of an old aqueduct, seized on the marshal himself, who in vain tried to tempt the fidelity of his captor for his escape; the officer who took him replying with simple but strong terms, "I have served the emperor a long while faithfully, and will not now betray him."

It was soon after this time that he was to have the splendid coadjutor whose name dignifies the wars of the present section, on the accession of queen Anne; and his own fame became such as to render him worthy of that honor, by the affairs of Schellenburg, Turin, &c. In proportion to his increasing popularity, however, he found enemies, who rejected no means of obtaining their ends. Among others, he received, in 1710, a letter, with a paper inclosed, so strongly poisoned, that it nearly occasioned him to swoon, and killed a dog immediately.

In 1712, after an end being proposed to the successful war we have seen, he came to England to obtain its continuance, but found his coadjutor no longer in power, and his mission indifferently treated. With a degree of sincerity, not always to be found in courts, he retired to the villa of his fallen friend during the principal part of his stay in England, and confined himself chiefly to his company. The queen made him a present of a sword set with diamonds, valued at 5000l. which he wore at her birth-day, and was allowed to lead her to and from the opera performed in the evening at court. He afterwards received all the attentions of city hospitality, and on the 17th of March, in the same year, returned to open the campaign in Flanders.

He now signalized himself in a defensive war against the French on the Rhine, and, as before, gave a powerful aid to the peace which took place in 1714. Two years after, he was again called to attack the Turks, with the same success as before; and, after a cessation of several years, in the war between the empire, France, Spain, and Sardinia.

During the suspension of hostilities, he had cultivated all the refined arts of peace, and engaged himself to all by manners equally calculated for pacific employments, to those in which he had so eminently distinguished himself. In 1736, however, after having been extremely cheerful the evening, before at supper with a party of his friends, he was found dead in the morning, without any apparent cause, but an immoderate defluxion of rheum, with which he was supposed to have been choked.

The collections left behind him have been much spoken of, besides a valuable library and cabinet; the quantity of his plate was inconceivable; and he had received, besides the sword already mentioned, one from the emperor his master, another from the king of Prussia, a fourth from George I. and two others from the republics of Holland and Venice. To these were added, a profusion of gold watches set with diamonds, and other valuable articles.

JOHN CHURCHILL (afterwards duke of Marlborough, and prince of the Holy Roman Empire), the eldest son of sir Winslow Churchill, of Wootton-Basset in Wiltshire, and Elizabeth, the daughter of sir John Drake, was born on the 29th of Sept. 1650, at Ashe, Devonshire, the seat of his maternal grandfather. He was submitted for a short period to the tuition of a neighbouring clergyman,

DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH.

man, but with little success in regard to literary acquisition, being taken to court when he was only twelve years old, and placed under the peculiar patronage of the duke of York, afterwards James II. who was passionately attached to his sister.

As early as 1666, he obtained, by means of his patron, an ensigncy in one of the regiments of guards, and accompanied a body of troops to Tangier, at that time in the possession of the English, and about to be besieged by the Moors. He remained here a short time only, which, however, he employed in comparing the theory and practice of tactics, an opportunity to which he probably owed the foundation of his future greatness. That this was, however, not his only basis, is evident from the descriptions which have been given of his person, as fine, graceful, and elegant; and the constancy of his attendance at all times at court, when not occupied by his military employment.

In 1672, the duke of Monmouth, commanded a body of 5000 English auxiliaries in the service of France, and received the care of the young soldier, who was soon after made captain of grenadiers in his own regiment, and signalized himself in the affairs of Nimeguen and Maestrecht. The favour with which his personal qualities appear to have inspired every one, soon extended from the English to the French court. Marshal Turenne distinguished him as the "handsome Englishman." The king thanked him for his services in the campaign at the head of the line; and the duke of Monmouth, on his return, re-echoed their praises so much, that preferment was showered on him from every quarter.

In 1679, when the duke of York retired to the Low Countries, colonel Churchill attended his patron. Returning

turning to Scotland, he received the command of a regiment of dragoons, and at the same time strengthened his interest by a matrimonial alliance with miss Sarah Jennings, a lady in the household of the princess, afterwards queen Anne. She was then of the age of 21, lovely, sensible, and sprightly; and gave a perfect augury of that extraordinary influence she afterwards evinced over her sovereign. In 1682 he returned with the duke of York by sea to London, when they were wrecked near the mouth of the Humber; and colonel Churchill received a new instance of the regard of his patron, in selecting him to accompany him in the boat in which he left the ship, while many persons of quality remained behind, and perished, with 120 others. On their return to court, he was immediately created baron of Eymouth, in Scotland, and appointed colonel of the 3d troop of guards. In these posts he continued on the accession of James II. who then sent him ambassador to France to notify it, and on his return created him an English baron.

Upon the rebellion of the unhappy duke of Monmouth, lord Churchill, being then lieutenant-general of his majesty's forces, was sent with the first troops against his earliest commander and friend, and powerfully contributed to the victory which ended in his capture and death. He was received with the greatest satisfaction, on his return, by the king, from whom, nevertheless, he was shortly to be alienated, by the fatal turn of the politics of that misguided monarch. Acquainted with every movement of a court, he saw the tendency to ruin of that in which he had so long been fostered, and prepared with great prudence to escape the shock. In 1688 he attended his royal master, when he marched

to

to meet the prince of Orange on his invasion; but shortly after withdrew to the latter, intimating the best of all possible reasons, his conscience, to be the cause. By his advice, and that of lady Churchill, the prince George of Denmark, and princess Anne soon followed the prudent example.

On the arrival of the prince of Orange at London, colonel Churchill was entrusted with the critical task of re-assembling his troop of guards, and afterwards in modelling the army. Previous to the coronation of the new king and queen, he was created earl of Marlborough, and assisted at that ceremony a second time. Soon after he was made commander in chief of the English forces sent to Holland, and excited that general admiration in the Dutch and Germans, which had before attracted the eulogia of France. Prince Waldeck declared, that "he entered more into the art of war in a day, than some generals in many years." The earl of Marlborough next distinguished himself in the cause of his new patron in Ireland, where he continued to exhibit such uncommon abilities as induced king William to observe, that "he knew no one so fit for a general, who had seen so few campaigns." So completely did Marlborough possess the confidence of the soldiery, so desirable to a general, that in the most inextricable difficulties they exclaimed, "*Cor eral John* will get us off."

But some suspicious circumstances arising in the conduct of the earl, perhaps from his close connexion with the court, or the endeavours of his old master with his former subjects in England, he was suddenly deprived of all his employments, as well as his lady, and continued in disgrace till the death of queen Mary. Soon after that event, however, with his usual fortune, he was recalled

to the royal favor, and appointed governor of the duke of Gloucester, with this complimentary instruction from the king:—"Make him, my lord, but what you are, and my nephew will be all I wish to see him." To this employment was added, that of one of the lords justices in the king's absence. Again also he was sent to Holland, in a capacity both military and civil. In 1700 the king honoured him there by dining in his tent, and on his approaching death recommended him as a proper person to succeed himself in protecting the liberty of Europe.

His expectations on the accession of queen Anne were not disappointed: he was elected knight of the garter, and declared captain-general of all her majesty's forces. The same appointment, with a splendid salary, was added by the States-General. This was the period at which we have seen him exhibit that grandeur of enterprize, that distinguishing character in arms, which elevated him in the eyes of all Europe. In the latter end of the year 1702, he was created duke of Marlborough, with a princely revenue, and received the honourable gratitude of his country in a variety of ways. Just about the time of his departure in 1703, he received a small check to his happiness, in the death of his only son, the new marquis of Blandford, at Cambridge, but it did not interrupt his career. When the campaign was over, at an interview with the emperor Charles III. of Spain, that monarch presented him with the rich sword he wore at the time, with a profusion of compliments.

In 1704 as we have before shewn, he joined the prince Eugene, and performed the series of warlike exploits we have recorded under his name. When the campaign was over, he returned to England, bringing with

with him marshal Tallard, and 26 other officers of distinction, with 121 standards and 179 colours. These were erected in Westminster-hall, and himself received with every mark of honor and esteem. Among these was the erection of a splendid palace, for himself and posterity, called Blenheim.

In the year 1705, the duke of Marlborough went to Holland, but with ordinary success, and afterwards visited the courts of Vienna, Berlin, and Hanover. At the first he was presented by Joseph II. with the principality of Mindelheim; and at the others arranged in the most satisfactory manner a complication of political affairs. In 1706 he returned to England, and received a repetition of the public thanks, with some further care for the interest of his family. A party, however, was now arising, who conceived danger to exist in his ambition; and that influence which the duchess had enjoyed over the queen uninterrupted throughout a number of years was about to be supplanted by another; nevertheless he continued to pursue his brilliant career with the same undiminished success, till the latter end of 1711, when the discontents had increased so much, that he was dismissed from all his employments. At the same time the next year he retired to Aix-la-Chapelle, and his own principality of Mindelheim, as a kind o voluntary exile.

Being prepared for such an event, he returned about the time of the queen's death, was received in a manner similar to former occasions, and reinstated in all his military offices. His advice aided again to crush a rebellion in favor of the family by whom he had been reared, but it was the only exercise of his extraordinary talents that took place in his new command; he now

retired almost at once entirely from business, remaining constantly at one of his villas.

If we have pursued with wonder this great and fortunate general through all his transactions to an elevation little short of empire, it will be no less pleasing to view him in the decline of days, surrounded by the great, the learned, and the good, and passing away by degrees with the mild decay of an autumnal evening. The tenderness of every branch of his family, including some lovely grand-children, was the constant solace of his latest hours. One instance of this shall be here briefly mentioned for the purpose of introducing the last, though far from least, of the flattering compliments of which the world had not been frugal towards him. In the year 1718, during a visit of bishop Hoadley, Dr. Samuel Clarke, and the celebrated Sir Richard Steele, at Blenheim-house, the younger part of the family, and some other visitors, determined to entertain his grace with the dramatic performance of the tragedy of All for Love. Lady Bateman, a favorite daughter of the earl of Sunderland, in vain solicited the Sheridan of that day for an appropriate prologue, and was therefore surprized, almost impromptu, with the elegant production from which the following lines are extracted, a unique performance of the defender of civil and religious liberty:

" Whilst ancient deeds and heroes in us live,
And scenes of love and war we here revive,
Greater in both, in both more fortunate,
Than all that ever ages past call'd great;
O MARLBRO', think not wrong that I thee name,
And first do homage to thy brighter fame.

— — — — — —

—— Call'd from soft repose, and beauty's charms,
Thy louder fame is spoke in feats of arms;

The

The *fabled* stories of great Philip's son
By *real* deeds the world hath seen outdone.

— — — — — —

This heap of stones, which Blenheim's palace frame,
Rose in this form a mon'ment to thy name;
This heap of stones must crumble into sand,
But thy great name shall thro' all ages stand.

— — — — — —

One shall arise who will thy deeds rehearse,
Not in arch'd roofs, nor in suspected verse;
But in plain annals of each glorious year,*
With pomp of truth the story shall appear,
Long after Blenheim's walls shall moulder'd lie,
Or blown by winds, to distant countries fly.

— — — — — —

O cherish the remains of life! survey
Those years of glory, which can ne'er decay;
Enjoy the best reward below allow'd,
The mem'ry of past actions great and good!"

It need scarcely be added, that the duke was extremely affected by this tender and unexpected compliment.

The period was, however, now fast approaching, when every honor was to be resigned to the care of posterity. His grace shortly after experienced a paralytic stroke, which produced a total decay; and we who have seen him prematurely rising to glory and affluence, in youth and beauty, must now mark his descent to the grave.

"From Marlbro's eyes the tears of dotage flow."

* Alluding to the proposed intention of Sir Richard Steele to write a history of the war in Flanders. This poem is selected from the Hoadleian MSS. in the possession of the representative of the family.

He died on the 16th of June, 1722, at Windsor-lodge, and was buried with the greatest solemnity in Westminster-abbey, leaving issue his successor to the title, and four daughters.

Medals were struck to perpetuate the battle of Blenheim. On the 3d day of January, 1703, the colours and standards taken at Blenheim were set up in Westminster-hall; and three days after the duke of Marlborough was entertained by the city of London. Marechal de Tallard, with the other French generals made prisoners in this battle, were immediately after their arrival in England, conducted by the royal regiment of horse-guards to Nottingham and Litchfield, where they were treated with great respect, and allowed the privilege of riding ten miles around the places of their confinement.

The emperor was not wanting on his part to perpetuate the memory of this glorious victory: he caused a stately pillar to be erected on the field of battle, with an inscription on it concluding with these words:

Exercitii victori, cum immortali gloria, imperavit Johannes, dux de Marlborough, Anglus.

John, duke of Marlborough, an Englishman, commanded the victorious army with immortal glory.

The only facts which we have been able to collect of the marshal Tallard, who appears so conspicuous in this affair, are, that he came to England in 1698 as ambassador, and accompanied king William from London to Newmarket, where his astonishment was excited to an extraordinary degree at the numbers of nobility he found there,

there, and the prodigious extent of gaming he witnessed. From England he followed king William to Holland, and was afterwards employed in forming a party in England against the partition treaty.

His presumption and capture at Blenheim have been already noticed, as well as his destination on his arrival in England. He remained at Nottingham till 1722, the same year in which the duke of Marlborough died.

The following anecdote is recorded of his manner. While besieging Landau, being acquainted that the imperial troops, commanded by the prince of Hesse-Cassel, was coming to attack him in the lines, he insolently prepared to intercept their design, and seize the advantage of the attack, which he made with fixed bayonets, and obtained a decided victory. "Sire," said he, by way of announcing it to Louis XIV. "we have taken more colours and standards than your majesty has lost soldiers."

Military Transactions, including the Invasion of the Pretender.

1715 to 1756.

Battle of Dumblain—of Dettingen—of Fontenoy—Preston Pans—Account of Colonel Gardiner—Battle of Falkirk—Battle of Culloden—Distresses of the Representative of the Stuarts—Battle of Laffeldt.

ON the accession of King George the First, a degree of severity towards the tory ministry, which had previously borne sway, became necessary, that tended in the most powerful manner to excite the attempts of the representatives of king James, and to summon all the power of their adherents. Numerous rencontres was the consequence, of little moment to the military reader, and of no other than a painful interest to the favorer of either party. The succeeding affair is the only one distinguished by the best martial records.

THE BATTLE OF DUMBLAIN,

Between the royal troops commanded by the duke of Argyle, and the rebels under the command of the earl of Mar, may be said to have put an end to the rebellion of that time, inasmuch as no action happened after it. On the 12th of day of November, both armies being in the neighhourhood of Dumblain, resolved on giving battle. In the morning the duke drew up his army, which did not exceed 3500 men, on the heights to the north-

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north-east of Dumblain; at last he was outflanked both on the right and left. The clans that formed part of the centre and right wing of the Pretender's army, with Clanronald and Glengary at their head, charged the left of the king's army sword in hand, with such impetuosity, that in seven hours both horse and foot were routed with great slaughter, and general Whetham, who commanded them fled at full gallop to Sterling, where he declared that the royal army was totally defeated.

In the mean time, the duke of Argyle, who commanded in person, attacked the left of the enemy at the head of Stair's and Evans' dragoons, and drove them two miles before him, though in that space they wheeled about and attempted to rally ten times, so that he was obliged to press them hard, that they might not recover from their confusion. Brigadier Wightman followed in order to sustain him with three battalions of infantry, while the victorious right wing of the rebels, having pursued Whetham a considerable way, returned to the field, and formed in the rear of Wightman to the amount of 5000 men. The duke of Argyle returning from the pursuit, joined Wightman, who had faced about and taken possession of some inclosures, and mud walls, in expectation of being attacked. In this posture both armies fronted each other till evening, when the duke drew off towards Dumblain, and the rebels retired to Ardroch, without mutual molestation.

Next day the duke marching back to the field of battle, carried off the wounded, with four pieces of cannon left by the enemy, and retired to Sterling. Few persons were taken on either side; the number of slain might be about 500 of each army, and both generals claimed the victory

of the lawful succession to the imperial dominions was the part of Great Britain, which interposed, in relation to Hanover. They supported the queen of Hungary, in quality of auxilliaries, as France did the emperor, and both soon became principals in the contest.

THE BATTLE OF DETTINGEN,

Is the first affair of moment in the annals of this war; it was fought on the 15th day of June, 1743. The king arrived in his camp but four days before, and with him the duke of Cumberland came to make his first campaign.

By a particular operation, marechal Noailles, commander of the French army, gained a superiority in the field, and over the allies, commanded by the earl of Stair; he cut off their provisions by making himself master of the passes above and below their camp, and lined the windings of the Maine with cannon in such a manner, that when the king resolved to march to Hanau, where had arrived a reinforcement of 12,000 Hanoverians and Hessians, both with a view to effect the junction, and get provisions for his forces, who were now reduced to half allowance, he found himself exposed to the enemies batteries, a precipitate march was then all the resource he had; and on the 14th of June, in the middle of the night, he ordered his army to decamp without beat of drum. The marechal, who saw him in a dangerous road, between a mountain and the Maine, both which he occupied, ordered thirty squadrons of the household dragoons and hussars to post themselves near Dettingen, in a hollow way, where they would be unperceived

posed it, but he was over-ruled, and not permitted to go.

The king exposed himself to a heavy fire of cannon and musquetry; he rode between the first and second lines with his sword drawn, and encouraged the troops to fight for the honour of England. Among the other singularities of the battle, should not be forgot a count Boufflers, of the branch of Remioncourt, a child of only ten years and a half old, who had his leg shattered with a cannon ball; he received the wound, saw his leg cut off, and died with equal undauntedness; so much youth, with so much courage, drew tears from all the spectators. The loss was nearly equal on both sides. The allies, who computed their army at 50,000 men, lost about 3000.

Among the killed of the allies, were the generals Clayton and Monroy; of the wounded were the duke of Cumberland, who exhibited uncommon proofs of courage, and was shot through the calf of the leg; the duke of Aremberg, the earl of Albemarle, and general Huske.

Among the killed of the enemy were the duke de Rouchart, marquisses Sabran and de Fleury, counts de Estrade and de Rostaing; wounded, dukes de Boufflers and de Ayen, counts de Eu, de Harcourt, de Biron, and de-la-motte Houdancourt.

The consequence was nothing; a great deal of blood spilled without any advantage. The king gained great honour, but was obliged to seek provisions at Hanau, leaving his dead for the vanquished to bury, and his sick and wounded on the field of battle.

From Hanau the earl of Stair wrote the following letter to marechal Noailles.

"I have

"I have sent back all the French prisoners that I had any knowledge of, and have given orders that those who are in the hands of the Hanoverians shall be released. Give me leave to return you thanks for your generous behaviour, which is entirely agreeable to the sentiment I have always entertained for the duke de Noailles. I am obliged to you, sir, for the care you have so generously taken of our wounded, whom the French general had indeed treated with great care and tenderness. Such generosity softens the rigour of war, and does honour to humanity."

Voltaire says he saw my lord Stair a few weeks after the action, and asked him what he thought of the affair at Dettingen; to which the earl replied, I think you committed one mistake, and we two: yours was the passing the hollow-way, and not having patience to wait: ours were, first exposing ourselves to destruction, and then not making proper use of our victory.

Dettingen is merely a village dignified by this battle, and situated on the river Maine.

In continuation of this war, the conflicting powers pursued their various plans, till

THE BATTLE OF FONTENOY.

The French monarch ordered a numerous army to march into the Netherlands, and gave the command of it to marechal count de Saxe, and his Majesty and the Dauphin joined it soon after. They invested the strong town of Tournay on the 29th of April. The allied forces, commanded by the duke of Cumberland, resolved on relieving that place, though they were greatly inferior in number. On the 29th the two armies were in sight of

each other. The next day the allies were employed in driving the enemy from the advanced posts, and clearing the defiles, through which they might advance to the attack, while the French completed their batteries, and made the most formidable preparations for their reception.

The first of May, at two in the morning, the confederate army marched forwards in four columns, and came and drew up in order of battle in the plain, where the detachment sent the proceeding day was posted. The right wing, composed of English, and the Hanoverians, who formed the centre, under major-general Zastrow, were to form in four lines, to the left, as far as the wood of Piernne: they were to march up in three columns; the first column, which was cavalry, to come up the road of Mons, along the village of Veron; and the third to stretch into the plain between Fontenoy and Antoin. His highness the duke of Cumberland having been informed that there was in the front of the village of Veron, a fort mounted with cannon, where 500 or 600 men might be lodged, ordered brigadier-general Ingoldsby, with four battalions and three six-pounders, to attack the village sword in hand, whilst the prince of Waldeck, attacked the village of Fontenoy, which he had undertaken to do.

Lieutenant-general sir James Campbell was ordered to cover the infantry of the right wing, which was commanded by lieutenant-general Ligonier, whilst it should be forming, with fifteen squadrons, by extending himself along the plain to the wood, towards the village of Fontenoy. This disposition was frustrated by an accident to sir James Campbell, to whom it was entrusted, having had the misfortune to lose his leg by a cannon shot.

shot. Sir John Ligonier, however, formed the two lines of infantry, although entirely exposed, without any other interruption from the French, than a brisk cannonade, which did great execution. But he even silenced the moving batteries of the French, by causing seven pieces of cannon to advance, by order of his royal highness. The cannonading began on both sides about a quarter after four o'clock; the fire was incessant, it occasioned a most melancholy destruction; and among those of the French, who fell in the first volley, was the duke de Gramont, who presented a mournful spectacle. His thighs were shot off, and in an hour after he expired.

The cannonading continued without intermission till nine o'clock, when the confederate army was formed in order of battle. Sir John Ligonier immediately acquainted the duke of Cumberland by an aid-de-camp, that he was ready, and if his highness approved of it, would begin the attack as soon as the prince of Waldeck should march to the village of Fontenoy, as had been previously agreed between them. The fort next the wood should have now been attacked, which, if it had been carried, would have greatly contributed towards the success of the confederates. But having received fresh orders for altering his disposition, brigadier-general Ingoldsby did not attack the fort, although he advanced within 150 paces of it, where he was exposed to a continual fire, and was unfortunately wounded. When two British lines were drawn up, the duke of Cumberland put himself at their head, and gave orders to march directly to attack the left wing of the French, posted at Antoin; prince Waldeck, with the Hanoverians, and twelve Dutch battalions moved at the same time to attack

tack Fontenoy. While the remainder of the left wing proceeded to an eminence, from whence they cannonaded the French, but never once attempted to attack their right wing. During the time the confederates were marching to their respective attacks. The French kept a strong fire of cannon, making whole lanes through the ranks of the confederates, particularly the English, who nevertheless advanced with an amazing intrepidity, and reserved their discharge to the distance of thirty paces before they fired. The British infantry, which had been drawn up very thick, broke at the second charge the brigade of French, who fell back upon the Irish brigades. The French cavalry, who immediately advanced towards them, was not long able to stand the dreadful fire of that line of infantry, so that for above an hour they certainly had every advantage over the left wing of the French, although several of their squadrons rallied, but were again compelled to give ground by the prodigious fire from the British infantry, who thus unsupported by their cavalry, had a fair prospect of a complete victory, bearing down all before them; and after drawing the left of the French army 3000 paces beyond the village of Fontenoy, found themselves masters of the field of battle, as far as to their camp. The left wing of the French, after retiring to a great distance to avoid a close engagement, at length opened and uncovered two batteries of great guns charged with cartridges of small shot, which made so terrible a fire in front and flank that all the valour of the British column could not bear up against it. During this engagement, Prince Waldeck attempted, successively, two attacks upon the village of Fontenoy; but scarce was he arrived at the head of the first detachment, before

fore he was taken in flank by a battery of twenty-five pieces of cannon, which were planted behind a wood, and made such a dreadful havock in discharging chain-shot and cartridge, that the foremost troops were obliged to fall back on those who were advancing to sustain them, upon which M. de la Vauguyon, who commanded in the village of Fontenoy, vigorously redoubled his fire, and obliged the Prince to recede; which, together with the misfortune of brigadier Ingoldsby's not succeeding in his attack on the fort of Veygon, brought the British troops into a melancholy situation, who now found themselves between cross fires of small arms and cannon, and were likewise exposed to that of their front, so that the British generals found it necessary to retire to the height of Fontenoy, and the front near the wood, from whence also there was a continued fire which occasioned some confusion, but by the attention of the duke of Cumberland and marshal Konigregg, it was soon prevented and the troops again put into order. It was now about twelve o'clock, and the confederate generals determined on making a second trial; the British forces were to endeavour to carry the redoubt in the wood, while prince Waldeck re-attacked the village of Fontenoy. The British, animated by their late success, and encouraged by their generals, recommenced the attack with the greatest spirit and bravery, driving the French to their camp with a considerable loss; great part of their infantry was broke, several of their squadrons routed, and the French monarch shuddered for the fate of the day. But marshal Saxe perceiving the confusion of his men, ordered the household troops to advance. He ordered these to be followed by the foot, who in the first disposition sustained the left, and some pieces of

cannon, to silence the confederate artillery, which greatly annoyed the household troops.

This new disposition made an immediate alteration, checked the violence of the British infantry, and gave leisure to the Irish brigade, and that of Vaisseux, to form themselves. Such was the furious bravery of the British infantry, that marechal de Saxe was now reduced to his last and principal effort, to retrieve the honour of the day. This was in bringing up the Irish brigade, a corps on whose courage and behaviour he entirely depended for a favourable decision of so great, so dubious, and well contested a battle. The Irish brigade, consisting of the regiments of Clare, Lally, Dillon, Berwick, Ruth, and Buckley, with the horse of Fitz-James, being drawn up, were sustained by the regiments of Normandy and Vaisseux, and marched up to the British line without firing. The British were now greatly thinned, the men wearied, and wherever they trod, were obliged to fight over the mangled bodies of their dying countrymen; while their new and bravest opponents were fresh, and prepared for the rough and savage encounter, an encounter like that on the plains of Pharsalia, where brothers might embrue their hands in fraternal blood, relations sluice out the tide of consanguinity, friends murder friends, and countrymen countrymen; and where every dreadful act of war was drest in more formidable, more awful horrors. As soon as the Irish brigade advanced, the fire was dreadful, and the slaughter great, for havoc seemed here the most delighted with her bloody banquet. The combat was sharp, strong, and sanguinary, they fought hand to hand, bayonet to bayonet, foot to foot, and blow for blow. But so great was the determination of the British troops, the Irish brigade

brigade so vigorous, the fury of the French artillery so perpetually brisk, that being now all charged by the household troops, and attacked in flank by the carabiniers, they began to stagger, nor could they support the violence of so rude a shock, and about one o'clock were obliged once more to retire to the ground between the village and the point of the wood. The French cavalry endeavoured to break them in their retreat, but were so well received by the British guards, and major-general Zastrow of the Hanoverian troops, that the regiment of Noailles was almost destroyed, and the carabiniers had thirty-two officers killed.

As the Dutch did not make any attempt on the left, it was resolved by the confederate generals that the whole army should retire. For which purpose the commanding officers of lieutenant-general Howard's regiment, and of the Highlanders, were ordered to post themselves in the church yard of Veyon, and the others in the hedges, where they had been posted the day before; the cavalry was likewise drawn up to secure the retreat, which was made in such excellent order, the battalions fronting the French every 100 paces, that there was not the least attempt made to disturb the confederates, who returned to their camp at Bruffoel, and quitting it the same night about eleven o'clock, marched directly to the camp at Lassines, near Aeth, in Hainnault, twelve miles north-west of Mons, leaving most of the wounded at the head quarters at Bruffoel, upon the confidence of a cartel, and the usual behaviour upon such occasions. But in this they were unhappily deceived, the miserable sufferers were most inhumanly treated by the French, who carried them to Lisle and Doway, without dressing their wounds, and without even a supply of necessaries, which

which occasioned the death of many officers and soldiers.

The allies lost about 12,000 men, including a number of officers; among these were lieutenant-general Ponsonby; among the wounded were the earl of Albemarle, the earl of Ancram, lord Cathcart, and lord George Sackville.

The victory cost the French almost an equal number of lives; and although the attack was generally considered rash and precipitate, the British and Hanoverian troops fought with such intrepidity and perseverance, that if they had been properly sustained by the Dutch forces, and their flanks covered by the cavalry, the French in all probability would have been obliged to abandon their enterprise.

The conquest of Tournay was the immediate consequence, and shortly after Ghent, Ostend, Dendermonde, Oudenarde, Nieuport, and Aeth, surrendered to the enemy.

Fontenoy, the scene of the present battle, is three miles south-east from Tournay. It is a town of the Austrian Netherlands, situated on the confines of Flanders.

The progress of George the II. on the continent was however interrupted by another, and the last attempt of the family of Stuart to regain the throne of these realms.

Charles Edward, the enterprising grandson of king James the II. embarked in 1745, from France, on board a privateer, with seven officers, twelve hundred stand of arms, and a small sum of money, and arrived in the Highlands of Scotland, where he was well received by the heads of several clans or families. Three thousand men

men soon ranged themselves between his banners, whom his courage, example, and hardy life, inspired with the greatest enthusiasm. He made himself master of the important town of Perth, and proceeded to Edinburgh, where he was proclaimed regent for his father James, and the whole kingdom was astonished at his success.

The particulars of this rapid progress will, however, be better understood as an introduction to an affair, more attractive from its collateral circumstances, than the exhibition of military talent.

BATTLE OF PRESTON PANS.

The rebel army being considerably augmented, though very ill-provided with arms, crossed the Forth, in the neighbourhood of Stirling, and advanced towards Edinburgh, where they were joined by Lord Elcho, son to the earl of Wemys, and other persons of some distinction. On the 16th of September, 1745, the pretender, Prince Charles, summoned the town to surrender. The inhabitants were divided by faction, and distracted by fear: the place was not in a posture of defence, and the magistrates would not expose the people to the uncertain issue of an assault. Several deputations were sent from the town to the pretender, in order to negociate terms of capitulation. In the mean time, one of the gates being opened for the admission of a coach, Cameron, of Lochiel, one of the most powerful of the Highland chiefs, rushed into the place with a party of his men, and secured it without opposition. Next morning the whole rebel army entered, and their prince took possession of the royal palace of Holyrood-house, in the suburbs. Then he caused his father to be proclaimed at

the

den, in Linlithgowshire, on the 10th of January, 1688. His father, of the family of Torwoodhead, was a captain in the army during the reigns of king William and queen Anne, and a gentleman of good property; his mother was of the Hodges of Gladsmuir.

He was educated at the school of Linlithgow, and made considerable progress in classical learning, but was early removed to the army, having served as a cadet, and at fourteen years of age had a pair of colours in a Scotch regiment in the Dutch service, in which he continued till 1702.

He then exchanged for a similar commission in the army of queen Anne, and distinguished himself at the battle of Ramilies, where he was left among the dead on the field. His wound was occasioned by a musquet ball which entered at his mouth, and without even injury to his teeth, passed through his neck on the left side of the vertebræ, at the moment when he was rallying his men to his colours, which he had placed on a rising ground. Notwithstanding the success of his party, which was commissioned to drive the French from a strong position in the church yard, the latter remained master of the field where he lay, the duke of Marlborough having pushed his success beyond that scene, without the possibility of regard to the killed and wounded. He therefore lay all night as he fell, in considerable agony, which, however, he dissipated by ingenious contrivances to secure a sum of money in his own possession.

In the morning some French soldiers, accompanied by a cordelier, came to plunder and to pray for the dead; when one of them perceiving signs of life in the young soldier, was humanely about to extinguish them with

with his sword, but was prevented by the friar. He then made signs for something to drink, and obtained a cup of spirits, which had a powerful effect on his recovery; and he was soon able to misrepresent himself as the nephew of a neutral governor in the neighbourhood, to whom he requested to be carried, having a friend at Huy, who he knew would be ready to receive him. To this they agreed, but lost their way, and he was obliged to remain a second night, in a wood with his wound undressed. The next day they took him to a convent, where he was kindly received, and tenderly treated, and soon regained his liberty by an exchange of prisoners.

His disaster probably procured him a speedy promotion, for he shortly after obtained a cornetcy in lord Stair's regiment of Scotch Greys, and in January, 1715, was made captain-lieutenant in colonel Ker's regiment of dragoons. Being known to lord Stair, he was made his lordship's aid-du-camp, and afterwards his master of the horse, on the embassy of the same nobleman to Paris. He next obtained a captain's commission in the dragoons commanded by the subsequent lord Harrington, and remained for a considerable time the confidential inmate of the brave and generous nobleman before mentioned. Being sent with some dispatches relative to an intended invasion of the pretender, he is said to have occasioned the French king's death by a prediction of its speedy occurrence, which having caused that monarch, Louis XIV. to eat too heartily at a public dinner, by way of demonstrating his health, produced that event in less than three weeks after.

In 1717, captain Gardiner became major of his regiment, which he continued till its reduction, and then re-

ceived the sign-manual of George I. for the first vacant majority of dragoons. This happened in 1724; he was therefore appointed to Croft's dragoons, and on the 20th of July, in that year, removed to an old regiment, formerly commanded by the earl of Stair, in Scotland. This was a pleasing change, as it brought him near to his mother, a woman of intelligence and sensibility, to whom he had been indebted in his infancy for a foundation of virtue which appears never to have been erased, even in a constant round of Parisian dissipation. He had the happiness to know, that he had contributed, by a respectful and considerate attention, to render her life more happy, and no doubt promised himself many additional opportunities of increasing those attentions; but these hopes served only to augment his sorrow on the event of her death soon after, which happened in 1725.

On July 11, in the following year, he married the lady Frances Erskine, daughter of the earl of Buchan, a lady of elegant manners, and eminent virtues, of whom the only fault, (according to his own account) after a long period, was the value and anxious love of her husband. In January, 1738, he became lieutenant-colonel of his regiment, then commanded by lord Cadogan, and continued in that station till himself received the command of the regiment in which he fell.

Early in 1745, he was ordered to Stirling, to assist in suppressing the rebellion, and there he left his family, to whom he only said, on perceiving their tears at his approach of the danger to which he was liable, "We have an eternity to spend together." The day before the battle of Preston Pans, he rode through the ranks of his regiment, and addressed his men in the most respectful and animating manner, and perceiving a timidity in

part

part of his troops, determined to set them a spirited example. "I cannot," said he, "influence the conduct of others as I could wish, but I have one life to sacrifice to my country's safety, and I shall not spare it." They continued under arms all night, and in the morning, by break of day, perceived the approach of the rebel army, the consequences of which we have seen. After his dastardly troops had forsaken him, perceiving a party of the foot continuing to oppose the enemy bravely without an officer, he immediately headed them, though already twice wounded, exclaiming, "Fire on my lads, fear nothing." At the instant, he was clove down by the scythe of a Highlander, fastened to a long pole, and immediately covered with wounds.

A brave and faithful servant attended him, to whom he waved his hat to retreat, and who heard the last words which he uttered—"Take care of yourself." He retired to a distance of two miles, and returned with a cart, as soon as he could do it with safety, disguised as a miller's servant. His master was yet breathing, but plundered even to his cloaths. He opened his eyes, and no doubt, recognised the fruitless yet pleasing attention. He was conveyed to the Manse (or minister's house) of Tranant, and put to bed, but at eleven, after painful groans and breathings, expired.

He was followed to his grave on the Sunday following by numbers who disdained to forbear paying this tribute to the memory of a great and good man, though the country was in the hands of an enemy.

We have detailed the circumstances of this officer's life to shew that a serious sense of religion, for which he is more than dignified, in the account of his life by Dr. Doddridge, is not incompatible with true bravery and a

strict sense of honour. "It is not," says a sensible French military writer, "sufficient that soldiers should be brave, they must be also reputable persons." We do not pretend that a camp can be always made a house of prayer. We have even seen a Cromwell return from "seeking the lord," to the practice of abominable crimes, but the moral duties may be practised in a field of carnage, and a respect for the deity be maintained by a victorious army. This is only to be obtained by the education of Gardiner, whose conscience thus early fixed, led him timely from the gaieties of a dissipated capital, and made him ultimately the exemplary father of thirteen children; yet it prevented him not from a personal exertion, and a fall, not inferior in glory to the actions of heathen antiquity.

As a pleasing instance of the tenderness and attention with which we look back to the conductors of the guardians of our infancy, the following anecdotes are added: at a time when colonel Gardiner would have concealed a belief in the doctrines he had been taught, passing from Harwich in the packet boat to Holland, a violent storm arose, in which the vessel suffered so much as to induce a fear that she would not long be able to withstand the storm. Colonel Gardiner, on being instigated by the captain in the moment of danger, applied himself fervently to prayer, and in a short time after they safely arrived at Calais. It is probable that an improper use of this coincidence provoked the raillery of his acquaintance, to escape which he made this answer: "It was midnight, an hour when my good mother and aunt were asleep, or I should have left that part of the business to them."

As

As if determined that royalty should yield to nothing less than royal, the pretender prosecuted his success against all who were sent against him. After advancing into the heart of England, without any assistance from France, he determined to return to Scotland, as the scene better adapted to his cause.

BATTLE OF FALKIRK.

Charles Edward was besieging Stirling castle, when advice was brought him that the royal troops, commanded by general Hawley, were advancing to give him battle; on which Charles quitted the siege, and Hawley arrived at Linlithgow on the 13th day of January, 1746.

Next day his whole army rendezvoused at Falkirk, while the rebels lay encamped at Torwood. On the 17th they marched to attack the king's army, which was formed in order of battle, and advancing to the encounter. The enemy had taken possession of a hill on their right, and Hawley ordered two regiments of dragoons to drive them from that eminence. Their prince, who stood in the front of the line, gave the signal to fire, by waving his cap, and his followers took aim so well that the assailants were broke by the first volley; they retreated with precipitation, and fell in among the infantry, which were likewise discomposed by the wind and rain beating in their faces, wetting their powder and disturbing their eye-sight. The rebels followed their first blow, and great part of the royal army, after one irregular discharge, turned their backs, and fled in the utmost consternation. In all probability few or none would have escaped had not general Huske and brigadier Cholmondeley, rallied some regiments, and made a gallant stand, which favoured the retreat of the rest to

Falkirk. Among the few who withstood the general panic on this occasion, was the Glasgow regiment of militia which had been appointed to guard the baggage, and maintained its ground till it was ordered to retreat. The king's army retired in confusion to Edinburgh, leaving on the field part of their tents and artillery to the rebels; but their loss of men did not exceed 300, including sir Robert Monro, colonel Whitney, and some other officers of distinction. It was at this period that the officers, who had been taken at Preston Pans, conveyed to Angus in Fife, broke their parole, in consequence of finding themselves unguarded. They returned to Edinburgh on the plea of having, against their will, been forcibly released by the inhabitants.

General Hawley, who boasted that with two regiments he would drive the rebel army from one end of the kingdom to the other, incurred very severe censure for the disposition he made, as well as for his conduct before and after the action. He however found means to vindicate himself to the satisfaction of his sovereign, although it was judged necessary that the army in Scotland should be commanded by a general, in whom the soldiers might have some confidence; and for this purpose the duke of Cumberland was chosen.

Falkirk is a town in Scotland, eleven miles south from Stirling, in the county of the same name.

The career of the enterprising and hitherto fortunate pretender, was now about to be concluded with the most unhappy circumstances.

THE BATTLE OF CULLODEN.

In the beginning of April, 1746, the duke of Cumberland began his march from Aberdeen, and on the 12th

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12th passed the deep and rapid river Spey, without opposition from the rebels, though several of them appeared on the opposite side. Why they did not dispute the passage is not easily to be conceived; but indeed from this instance of neglect, and their subsequent conduct, we may nearly conclude they were under a total infatuation. His royal highness proceeded to Nairn, where he received intelligence that the enemy had advanced from Inverness to Culloden, about the distance of nine miles from the royal army, with an intention to give him battle.

On the 16th of April, between four and five in the morning, they began their march from Nairn, formed into five lines of three battalions each, headed by major-general Husk on the left, lord Semple on the right, and brigadier Mordant in the centre; flanked by the horse, under the generals Bland and Hawley, who at the same time covered the cannon on the right and left.

They marched in this order about eight miles, when a detachment of Kingston's horse, and of the Highlanders, having advanced ahead of the army discovered the van of the rebels moving towards them.

As soon as his royal highness had notice of this, he commanded the army to form in order of battle, which was thus executed. The three battalions of the second line defiled to the left of the respective battalions in the van, that is to say, Barrel's to the left of Monro's, Scotch fusileers to the left of Price's, and Cholmondeley's on the left of the royal, then marching up, formed the front line of six battalions, between each of them two pieces of cannon. At the head of this line, and in the centre, the earl of Albemarle commanded; on the right wing three squadrons of horse, under major-general Bland,

were on the left, and three squadrons, commanded by Lord Ancram.

The second line consisted of five battalions placed to face the openings of the front line, with three pieces of cannon placed between the first and second battalions, on the right and left of the same line, that if the enemy either broke through the centre, or outflanked the right or left of the front, they might conveniently play upon them.

To support both, and as a final reserve, was placed the remaining four battalions, winged on the right and left by Kingston's horse.

In this disposition the army continued for some time, but the body of rebels not advancing, it again fell into marching order, which continued until the front were within a mile of the enemy, then formed into fighting order as before.

The rebel army formed their front in thirteen divisions, being so many clans under their respective chiefs, with four pieces of cannon placed before their centre, and the same number on each wing. The centre was headed by sir John Drummond, the right wing by lord George Murray, and the left by the person who called himself duke of Perth. To support the front line occasionally, and covered by some stone walls, on the right was disposed Fitz James's horse, and four companies of French picquets; on the left, one body of horse, made up with the young Italian's guards, some hussars, and the Perthshire squadrons, and five companies of lord George Drummond's foot. Open to the centre of the front line was placed the young Italian with his body guards. In his rear a line of reserve, consisting of three columns: the first on the left commanded by lord Kilmar-

Kilmarnock, the centre column by lord Lewis Gordon and Glenbucket, and the right by Roy Stuart. Next and directly in the rear of Glenbucket, were the regiments of Perth and Ogilvie stationed, as the final reserve.

In this order the rebels began firing on the king's army about two o'clock, with their cannon, which being ill served, did little execution. The rebels were, however, soon put in disorder, by the successful firing of the king's army. They disliked this way of fighting, and therefore made a push on the right of the king's army, where his royal highness waited to receive them in person. This they did in a kind of bravado, to draw the king's troops forward, but finding themselves deceived, they turned their whole force on Barrel's and Monro's regiments, where they attempted to flank the king's front line, their design was however completely defeated by the advancing of Wolfe's regiment; in the mean time the cannon kept playing upon them with cartridge shot.

General Hawley had opened a passage through some stone walls to the right for the horse, which advanced on that side, while the king's right wheeled off upon their left, dispersed their body of reserve, and met in the centre of their front line in the rear, when being repulsed in the front, and numbers cut off, they fell into universal confusion. The horse on their rear made a dreadful carnage, the foot moved on in due order, but Kingston's horse, from the reserve, galloped up briskly, and, falling in with the fugitives, did great execution, the rest were routed with great slaughter; in less than thirty minutes they were totally defeated, and the field covered with the slain.

The

The road, as far as Inverness, was strewed with dead bodies, and a great number of people who had come to see the battle were sacrificed to the undistinguishing vengeance of the victors. Three thousand rebels were slain in the field and in the pursuit. The earl of Kilmarnock was taken, and in a few days lord Balmerino surrendered himself to one of the detached parties.

The different disposition of these two armies were in some measure owing to the different disposition of their respective situations. The king's army had to fight uncovered, the rebels covered behind walls; but when their impatience to get out of the way of the king's cannon, pressed them on attacking, they necessarily lost either the benefit of the reserve, or the reserve lost the benefit of the cover, which they not choosing to do, the impetuosity of the front carried them too far from the reserve, and their having no guard in their rear, the horse from the king's right and left easily over whelmed them.

On the other hand, the disposition of the king's army was perhaps as just as the mind of man was capable of contriving, if one failed, another supported, and if that failed, a third. The enemy could not possibly take two pieces of cannon, but three must directly play upon them, nor break one regiment but two were ready to supply the place. If the rebels were repulsed, they were routed; if any part of the king's army broke they rallied, and were supported. Had the king's army attacked, it might have not been so well, because then the rebels would have been closed and covered, and consequently the breaking of them the more difficult.

The

The vanquished adventurer forded the river Nesse, and retired with a few horses to Muid, where he conferred with old lord Lovat, then dismissed his followers, and wandered about a wretched and solitary fugitive, among the isles and mountains for four months, enduring a series of hardships, danger, and misery, as no other person ever out-lived. Thus in one hour all his hopes vanished, and the rebellion entirely extinguished. One would almost imagine the conductors of this desperate enterprise had almost conspired their own destruction, as they certainly neglected every step that might have contributed to their safety and success. They might have opposed the duke of Cumberland at the passage of the Spey; they might also have attacked his camp in the night with every prospect of success, as they were inferior to him in number, and weakened by hunger and fatigue, they might have retired to hills and fastnesses, where they would have found plenty of live cattle for provision, recruited their regiments, and been joined by a strong reinforcement, which was actually in full march to their assistance; but they were distracted with dissensions and jealousies, obeyed the dictates of despair, and wilfully devoted themselves to ruin and death.

When the news of the battle arrived in England, the whole nation was transported with joy, and extolled the duke as a hero and deliverer: both houses of parliament congratulated his Majesty on this auspicious event; they decreed, in the most solemn manner, their public thanks to his royal highness, which were transmitted to him by the speaker, and the commons by a bill, added 25,000l. per annum to his former revenue.

Imme

Immediately after the decisive battle of Culloden, he took possession of Inverness, and ordered thirty deserters to be executed. He then detached several parties to ravage the country; one of these apprehended lady Mackintosh, who was sent prisoner to the castle of Edinburgh, plundered her house, and drove away her cattle, although her husband was then actually in the service of government. The French prisoners were sent to Carlisle and Penrith. Kilmarnock, Balmerino, Cromartie, and his son, the lord Macleod, were conveyed by sea to London, and those of inferior rank were confined in different prisons. The marquis of Tullibardine, together with a brother of the earl of Dunmore, and Murray, the pretender's secretary, were secured and brought to the tower of London, to which the earl of Traquair had been committed on suspicion; and the eldest son of lord Lovatt was imprisoned in the castle of Edinburgh. In a word, all the gaols in Great Britain, from the capital northwards, were filled with these unfortunate captives.

The number of both armies were variously affixed. The king's troops at least exceeded 8000 men, whereas the rebels did not amount to 7000 men. What number of the king's troops were slain was never exactly known.

Culloden is in Invernesshire, two miles from the town of Inverness, and a mile to the south of Culloden-house. It belonged to the late Duncan Forbes, lord president of Scotland. On a moor, or heath, called Drummossie, the battle was fought, which is generally called Culloden Moor.

We cannot forbear in this place to associate with the extinction of the hopes of Stuart, a name whose counsels, always important, tended in no inconsiderable de-

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gree to that brilliant success which thus unexpectedly covered his Britannic Majesty's arms.

On the return of the Duke of Cumberland to the Netherlands in 1747, the following battle was fought:

BATTLE OF LAFFELDT.

In this action, which was soon after the cause of a peace, the Duke of Cumberland took post with his whole army between the two Nethes, to cover Bergen-op-Zoom and Maestricht; and Marshal Saxe called in his detachments with a view to hazard a general engagement. In the latter end of May, 1747, the French king arrived at Brussels, and his general resolved to undertake the siege of Maestricht. For this purpose he advanced towards Louvain; and the confederates perceiving his drift, began their march to take post between the town and the enemy. On the 20th day of June (1747), they took possession of their ground, and were drawn up in order of battle, with their right at Bilsen, and their left extending to Wirle, within a mile of Maestricht, having in the front of their left wing the village of Laffeldt, in which they posted several battalions of British infantry. The French had taken possession of Herdeeren, immediately above the allies; and both armies cannonaded each other till the evening. In the morning, the enemy's army marched down the hill in a prodigious column, and attacked the village of Laffeldt, which was well fortified and defended with amazing obstinacy. The assailants suffered terribly in their approach, from the cannon of the confederates, which was served with surprising dexterity and success; and they met with such a warm reception from

the British musquetry, as they could not withstand; but, when they were broken and dispersed, fresh brigades succeeded with astonishing perseverance. The confederates were driven out of the village; yet being sustained by three regiments, they measured back their ground, and repulsed the enemy with great slaughter. Nevertheless, Count Saxe continued pouring in other battalions, and the French regained and maintained their footing in the village, after it had been three times lost and carried. The action was chiefly confined to this post, where the field exhibited a horrible scene of carnage. At noon, the Duke of Cumberland ordered the whole left wing to advance against the enemy, whose infantry gave way; Prince Waldeck led up the centre: Mareschal Bathiani made a motion with the right wing towards Herdeeren, and victory seemed ready to declare for the confederates, when the fortune of the day took a sudden turn to their prejudice. Several squadrons of Dutch horse, posted in the centre, gave way, and flying at full gallop, overthrew five battalions of infantry that were advancing from the body of the reserve. The French cavalry charged them with great impetuosity, increasing the confusion that already was produced, and penetrating through the lines of the allied army, which was thus divided about the centre. The Duke of Cumberland, who exerted himself with equal courage and activity in attempting to remedy this disorder, was in danger of being taken; and the defeat would, in all probability, have been total, had not Sir John Ligonier taken the resolution of sacrificing himself and a part of the troops to the safety of the army. At the head of three British regiments of dragoons, and some squadrons

squadrons of imperial horse, he charged the whole line of the French cavalry with such intrepidity and success, that he overthrew all that opposed him, and made such a diversion as enabled the Duke of Cumberland to make an orderly retreat to Maestricht. He himself was taken by a French carabineer after his horse had been shot under him: but the regiment he commanded retreated with deliberation. The confederates retreated to Maestricht without having sustained much damage from the pursuit, and even brought off all their artillery, except sixteen pieces of cannon. Their loss did not exceed 6000 men killed and taken; whereas, the French general purchased the victory at a much greater expence. The common cause of the confederate powers is said to have suffered from the pride of their generals. On the eve of the battle, when the detachment of the Count de Clermont appeared on the hill of Herdeeren, Mareschal Bathiani asked permission of the commander-in-chief to attack them before they should be re-inforced, declaring he would answer for the success of the enterprize. No regard was paid to this proposal: but the superior asked, in his turn, where the mareschal would be in case he should be wanted? He replied, "I shall always be at the head of my troops," and retired in disgust. The subsequent disposition has likewise been blamed, as not above one half of the confederate army could act, while the enemy exerted their whole force.

This was the last battle of any importance previous to the treaty of Aix la Chapelle, when the war seemed to be transferred to the Indies, under the insidious manœuvre of France to influence the natives against the control of Britain. The relation of these circumstances, however, fall not within the view of this work,

and were not sufficiently striking to interest the professional reader, but refer rather to our naval history. One circumstance is, nevertheless, recorded here, from the horror which its occurrence excited, and the accuracy of its description by one of the most intelligent of the sufferers; we mean that relative to the siege of Calcutta, in which so many Europeans were suffocated by confinement in a prison, or cell, called, by way of pre-eminence, the black-hole of Calcutta.

JOHN DALRYMPLE, eldest son of John, Viscount, and afterwards Earl, of *Stair*, and Elizabeth Dundas, daughter of Sir John Dundas, of Newliston, in North Britain, was born the 20th of July, 1673. His family had already distinguished itself through several centuries by its martial and political talents; his lordship's ancestor, Adam de Dalrymple, having been conspicuous in the reign of Alexander III. (about 1268) for his learning and penetration, and himself gave very early specimens of that elevated character which might be expected from a long line of generous ancestry. While yet a boy he is said to have disciplined others around him into a military corps, which he named after himself, and which soon acquired all the evolutions of an army with astonishing exactness.

Before ten years of age the young nobleman had made considerable progress in classical learning, under a private tutor, from whom he went to the university of Edinburgh under a guardian. With the French language he was still earlier familiarized. His conduct at college, as it had been at home, was polite and sensible, nor in either situation did the dignity of his birth seem to affect him otherwise than with the superior necessity

cessity of generosity and affability of manner, and an exemplary conduct.

He left the college of Edinburgh in 1688, having passed through the whole of his courses, and entered himself *civis Bibliotheca* (a member of the library), where his name is recorded. He soon after went to Holland to study the art of war under the Prince of Orange, afterwards William III. and soon witnessed a variety of those grand transactions which constitute the experience of the soldier, and fitted him for the place he was afterwards to hold in society. He learned fortification and gunnery under the eye of the celebrated engineer, Coehorn, and acquired the French, Spanish, German, and Dutch languages, with such a purity as to pass for a native of the respective countries.

The young lord appears to have joined his father and family in being very instrumental in promoting the revolution, to which his youth, sympathy, and talents were very favorable; and in consequence received the early notice of king William on his accession to the throne of Britain, and an appointment very near his person. In 1690, he went with that monarch to Ireland, and made a conspicuous figure in his retinue. At Carrickfergus, where they landed, and Belfast, to which they next proceeded, and where they were received with great splendor by the Duke of Schomburg, and the general under his command, he was particularly distinguished, and continued to merit the honors he received during the whole of that campaign.

Returning with King William to England, he again accompanied his Majesty as one of his life-guards to Holland, and again received the most flattering attention.

In the war which was now determined on against France (1692), he received the command of a regiment which conferred the highest honor upon its colonel; and was present with great credit at the battle of Steenkirk, and in various other operations. To his paternal regard for his soldiers, and attention to his subaltern officers, this and many other advantages of a military life enjoyed throughout his successful career, are to be attributed.

After the death of his patron, and the succession of Queen Anne, Colonel Dalrymple particularly attracted the attention of the Duke of Marlborough, who, on the 9th of March, 1702, appointed him to the command of the North British Dragoons, a regiment which quickly grew into considerable esteem, from the adventurous and yet benevolent spirit of its commander. And when a short time after (in 1706) the union of England and Scotland became a prominent measure, having returned to his own country, he was arduous in his exertions towards it, as he had before been in the revolution. He was in the same year removed to the Loyal Cameronian Regiment. The anxiety of his father to see it completed was thought to have been the chief cause of his death, which took place as soon as that event, on the day after the dissolution of the Scotish parliament. As the best mark of the approbation of his country, his lordship was elected in the room of his father to represent it in the new senate, notwithstanding his immediate departure to join the Duke of Marlborough on the Continent. It will be readily supposed, that these events did not fail to establish that character which had already appeared so eminent in a variety of instances.

On

On the meeting of the first British parliament in October 1707, the Earl of Stair attended his place in the House of Lords, and attracted considerable attention, though his oratory in the senate, like that of many other great martial characters, was not equal to his eloquence in the field. To that more suitable scene he soon returned, and having a military negociation with the Elector of Hanover, became known to that prince, afterwards George I. of England, and to several of the German princes.

In 1708, he was commissioned by the Duke of Marlborough to announce the battle of Oudenarde, and so well pleased their majesties by his elegant relation, as to make an impression on them favorable to his talents for negociation. On Prince George of Denmark enquiring how the Danes behaved, his lordship gallantly answered, "that the private men fought like lions, and the officers acted the part of men," which so much gratified his highness, that he peculiarly recommended him to the queen. He was, in consequence, shortly appointed to congratulate Augustus of Poland on his brilliant accession to that throne, but did not remain long from the seat of war; whence, when he returned to England with the Duke of Marlborough in the following year, he found her majesty a recent widow. At the first interview with his lordship, when her eyes glanced on him, she recollected the gratification he had afforded her deceased husband when they last met, and wept most tenderly. In the same year (1709), the Earl of Stair received the rank of major-general of the army, and the order of the thistle, with the ribbon of which he was invested by the Duke of Marlborough in the presence of a number of generals.

The succeeding four years were principally employed in the embassy, in which Lord Stair was particularly successful in a variety of circumstances contributing to the future advantage of his country. His lordship lived in a style of elegance and gaiety theretofore unknown in the diplomacy of the north, and many anecdotes are related that tend to exhibit the hilarity of the court. The following, though simple in its nature, is added by way of illustration:—"His Polish Majesty, one day at table, with Lord Stair in his palace, in order to display his strength under pretence of absence of mind, bent one of the silver plates in his hand till it was folded like a piece of tin; and upon being noticed, flourished a sword with considerable vigour and agility, till the blade sprung from the handle. Upon which his lordship contriving to introduce one of the well-tempered, and strong Scottish swords, the king endeavoured in vain to break it, till, after various trials, he exclaimed, "The Scottish sword has defied me, and therefore I will strike a medal in honor of its master!" which was accordingly done with the arms of Poland on one side, and on the reverse a naked man wielding a naked sword, within a motto—"*Vis tandem inæqualis.*"

After having, in this situation, well acquainted himself with the interests of the several courts of the north, and afforded considerable information to his country, in 1713 Lord Stair shared the downfal of his connections, being recalled and deprived of his employments. The splendor in which he appears to have lived during his embassy are said to have injured his fortune so much as that his plate and equipage were on the point of seizure for the satisfaction of his debts, till a subaltern of his regiment (Lieutenant Lawson) timely advanced him

1800*l.*

1800l. His lordship now retired to his estate in Scotland, as his friend and patron, the fallen Duke of Marlborough, was doing at the same time in England.

The death of Queen Anne, however, reversed the fortunes of the Earl of Stair; for immediately on the accession of George I. his lordship was appointed one of the lords of his bed-chamber, sworn of the privy council, and made commander in chief of all his Majesty's forces in Scotland. He was also re-chosen to sit in the first septennial parliament. Nor were these all, for he, who had been so highly distinguished in Poland, was conceived the fittest to supply the diplomatic character to France, the most splendid court in Europe. That Lord Stair did not disappoint the choice of those who selected him, appears from the minute accounts published of him in his life-time, and immediately after his decease. To the king he made a public entry of uncommon shew, to his courtiers he made valuable presents, and suffered himself to be cheated at play by their wives; with the jacobites he planned counter-revolutions incog, and by largesses ingratiated himself with a starving people. By these means he diminished the influence of the Pretender at court, and counteracted the designs of that unfortunate prince, while in embryo, by his extensive information. Such was the success of his intrigues, and the effects of his caution, that the king of England announced to his parliament, as soon as the French king, the intended expedition of the Pretender, and to accounts of his health only did Louis XIV. ascribe the numerous expresses of Lord Stair, which were the consequence; "My bad state of health," said the old monarch, archly, "is not as you apprehended

apprehend, for, if you come to my palace to-morrow, you shall see me eat a fowl as heartily as ever I did in my life-time." The ambassador attended the invitation; as soon as Louis saw him, though before languid and sick, he eat voraciously—boasted of falsifying the supposed presage of his death, and died in a fortnight after!

In March, 1715, Lord Stair was appointed to the command of a regiment of dragoons, afterwards known by his name, and distinguished in a manner worthy of their colonel.

The political character and diplomatic powers of this all-accomplished nobleman now attained to the height of their celebrity. He obtained, by his spirited memorials of the regent Duke of Orleans, the dismission of the Chevalier de St. George after his flight from the English rebellion, and other important concessions on the part of the French court; while he obtained intelligence of every transaction in the French cabinet, which he regularly transmitted to his court. He lived in the most expensive style of elegance, frequently entertaining the French ministry and those of other countries; while he studied in every art to render the British name respectable. "Yea, and he himself," says a quaint historian, "always used an English meal for his Sunday's dinner!" On the accession of Louis XV. Lord Stair made a public entry to compliment his Majesty, which surpassed, in grandeur, any similar procession of modern times. This splendor, however, added to unsuccessful gaming, naturally impaired his private fortune, and he was in consequence recalled, but was received with every mark of esteem by the king his master

master, and the greatest popularity among his fellow-subjects.

During the whole of the reign of George I. his lordship continued to hold a distinguished share in every public affair of importance, being a constant attendant on the privy council; and on the accession of Geo. II. he was equally received into the favor of that prince, who, three years after (1730), made him, in addition to his other posts, Lord Admiral of Scotland.

In 1732, Sir Robert Walpole, then chancellor of the exchequer, brought into parliament his famous project of excise; so strongly, though unsuccessfully opposed; Lord Stair was among the number, who, without any animosity to the minister, exerted himself against it. He was, in consequence, deprived of all his places at the same time, with Lord Cobham, the Duke of Bolton, the Earls of Chesterfield and Burlington, &c. &c. On being asked by the queen the cause of his opposition, he answered, that he "wished her royal family better than agree to such a project!" The next general election being very warmly carried by the ministry, Lord Stair retired from Parliament to his estate in Scotland, where he indulged in the pursuits of agriculture with equal enthusiasm to that he had displayed in the field and the cabinet. Many incidents occur in the improvement of his estate highly creditable to his rural talents. Here he was visited by nobility from all quarters, and corresponded with the greatest men of every country; and here he endeared himself by his private virtues and condescension as much as he had before by his public services.

On the resignation of Sir Robert Walpole in 1741, and the consequent change in the government, those who had suffered for their opposition to that ministe-

were naturally restored; and, on the determination of a German war, Lord Stair was called from his retirement to the command of the British forces. In March, 1742, he became field-marshal, and ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the States General. He was received by the King and the Prince of Wales (the father of George III.) in the most flattering manner. He lost no time in assuming his command, and after exhibiting his usual skill in the negociations of the states, and remedying several abuses in the army, distinguished himself with redoubled lustre in a variety of actions, the principal of which have been recently described. A difference with the king, who commanded his Hanoverian forces, in the dispositions for some attacks, however, induced the resignation of Lord Stair, at Worms, having petitioned for leave "to return to his plough." From thence he went to the Hague to take leave of the states, and returned to London in November, where the public was unanimous in the warmest encomiums of his character. Being soon after indisposed, he was particularly attended to by the Prince of Wales, his royal consort, and brother; and the street in which he resided was constantly crowded with the carriages of those who were ambitious of bearing testimony to the general esteem. As soon as the rebellion of 1744-5 broke out, however, the earl again made a tender of his services, which were graciously received, and he was appointed commander-in-chief of the forces in South Britain, and soon after again elected one of the sixteen peers for Scotland. His advice, which must have been of some importance on this occasion, was, nevertheless, but little taken, to which has been attributed, by some, the progress of the rebel arms. He attended the king, however,

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DUKE OF CUMBERLAND.

however, in all his arrangements, till the termination of the rebellion, when, finding himself languid and unfit for business, he retired, for the last time, to Scotland, where he died on the night of the 7th of May, 1747, in the 74th year of his age. He was interred, on the 16th of the same month, with no other pomp than the visible sorrow of the public, a tribute which does not always accompany the obsequies of public pride.

Such are the outlines of the life and services of the Earl of Stair, which, did our limits permit, would require to be amplified to be conceived. He was a man of vast qualifications—able, honorable, humane, splendid, liberal, and delicate; of which singular instances are recorded: yet he does not appear to have been happier as he advanced in life. His person was fine, tall, and thin, with a good complexion, blue eyes, and a countenance remarked for sweetness, and prepossessing every one in his favor. Of such a character, to say more would be impertinent, to have said less would have been unjust.

The character of the prince, who preserved for his father the throne of the British empire, is better found in the recital of his actions which we have given than any thing that can here be added, exclusive of the want of that diversity of circumstances which must always attend so exalted a member of the royal family.

William Augustus, the second son of King George and Queen Caroline, was born at Leicester-house, then situated on the north side of Leicester-square, April 15, 1721. At four years of age he was installed Knight Companion of the Order of the Bath, and soon after received the titles of baron, viscount, earl, and marquis, and lastly, that of Duke of Cumber-

land. In 1730, he was elected Knight of the Garter; and, in 1739, had conferred on him by parliament an annuity of 25,000l. The next year, while yet only nineteen, he was appointed colonel of the 2nd regiment of guards, and afterwards of the first. He was then made a member of the privy council, and took his seat in the house of lords. Shortly after he was promoted to be major-general.

In 1743, he departed for Hanover with his royal father, and made his first campaign, as described in the present section. After the battle of Dettingen he was appointed to be lieutenant-general; and that of Culloden procured him the deserved reward of a duplication of his annual income. Previous to his arrival, the king had granted him the rangership of Windsor Great Park, which the Duke took, in consequence, great pains to beautify. When the Duke of Kingston's fine regiment of horse were broken, his royal highness formed from them a regiment of dragoons, and accepted for himself the command. In the same year he was presented with the freedom of London, and at the close of it re-embarked for the continent, returned for orders, and again arrived in the Netherlands, when the succeeding battle was fought.

After passing and repassing several times from England to the continent, his royal highness arrived in London in the latter end of 1748; and, on the death of the Prince of Wales, father of his present Majesty, was appointed chancellor of the university of Dublin, as well as that of St. Andrew, and received of the King, Cranbourn Lodge, in Windsor Forest. On the breaking out of the war, which forms our next section, in 1757, his royal highness took the command of an army of observation

servation for the protection of Hanover, but owing to some unfavorable circumstances, did not meet with his usual success. On his return a few months after, finding his reception different to what he had expected or deserved, he threw up all his military employments, and retired to Windsor, where he remained chiefly during the life of the king; but at the funeral of his royal father in 1760, he appeared as chief mourner.

On the 21st of October, 1765, he was taken suddenly ill, and exclaiming "it is all over," he sunk into the arms of the Earl of Albemarle, and expired. He was interred privately, but with great military honors, in Westminster Abbey.

The Duke of Cumberland is a signal proof (among many others) of the martial prowess to be evinced by the royal family when the daring spirit of their ancestors is suffered to break through a cloud of political prejudices.

ASIATIC WAR.

1756.

Asiatic War—Siege of Calcutta—Account of the British Sufferings in the Black-Hole there—Recapture of Calcutta—Siege of Bougee-Bougee by a single Sailor—Account of Strachan—Account of Sir Eyre Coote and Lord Clive.

THE nabob of Bengal, Surajah Dowla, having determined upon hostilities with the English, reasons, which are never long wanting in such cases, soon occurred, in the refusal of certain duties, the protection afforded some of his victims, the detention of a refractory Indian merchant, named Omichund, &c. &c. He therefore raised a numerous army, and proceeded against the East-India Company's settlements at Cassimbuzar, where, having treacherously obtained possession of the fort, the Moors behaved with the greatest cruelty, stripping the prisoners, and removing them to a considerable distance. Inflated with his success, and determined, as he said, to drive every Englishman out of his dominions, he marched directly to commence

THE SIEGE OF CALCUTTA.

It was invested on the 17th of June, 1756. His demands increasing, as Governor Drake, who commanded in it, inclined to accommodate matters with him, he proceeded with great vehemence, but little skill, towards

wards its reduction. He attacked a redoubt at the entrance of the town, from which his troops were repulsed with great slaughter. On the next day, he attacked another redoubt, and was again obliged to retire. But, having renewed his attacks with a vigour increased by disappointment, the troops in those posts were ordered to retire into the fort, and the Moors obtained possession of the town, which they were allowed to plunder for twenty-four hours. The nabob then invested the fort, but with inconsiderable force; he raised a battery of two twelve-pounders, but their fire was too feeble and ill directed to effect a breach. Nevertheless, preparations were making for a spirited attack, to which the place was by no means equal, and it possessed a number of useless refugees, including several ladies, which tended only to embarrass the defenders.

Governor Drake, therefore, assembled a council of war to consider what was necessary, when being informed by the officer who commanded the artillery, that there was not ammunition in the fort for four days, he determined to provide for the safety of those who could not protect themselves. The principal of the ladies were embarked on board the ships which lay off, and shortly after the governor and others followed their example, leaving Mr. Holwell, the second in council, and two hundred and fifty men, who determined to stay and defend the fort to the last extremity.

Mr. Holwell (now sole commandant) called a council of war, and dividing three chests of money among the discontented soldiers, made large promises to them for their courage and fidelity. He obtained possession of the keys of the place, and took every precaution; but the Moors having possession of

some houses that commanded the fort, they kept such a fire of musquetry upon the bastions, as to compel the English soldiers to retire. The cannon, at the same time, dislodged them frequently from these houses with great loss, but no decisive advantage was gained by the besieged, who became considerably diminished.

On the 20th, in the afternoon, the attack being still continued, and the garrison much exhausted, the governor ordered the white flag to be hung out for a cessation of hostilities, in order to procure delay, that he might make good a retreat down the river. In both designs, however, he was defeated, for the back gate being betrayed to the Moors, they entered the fort while a parley was taking place on the opposite side. The nabob received his unexpected advantage with much moderation, and promised that no harm should be done to the British troops; but when it became dark, Mr. Holwell, as well as his party of every description, were indiscriminately thrust into the black-hole, a close apartment not sufficient to contain one-tenth part of their number. The distress they suffered is the most important circumstance in this siege, which, with what remains to be told of the result of the defence of the fort at this time, will be found more impressively related in a letter addressed to William Davis, Esq. published two years after, by Mr. Holwell, on his return to England.

"The confusion," says the writer, "which the late capture of the East-India company's settlement in Bengal must necessarily excite in the city of London, will, I fear, be not a little heightened by the miserable deaths of the greatest part of those gentlemen who were reduced to the sad necessity of surrendering themselves prisoners

prisoners at discretion in Fort William (the English fort Calcutta).

"By narratives made public you will only know, that of 146 prisoners, 123 were smothered in the black-hole prison, in the night of the 20th of June, 1756. Few survived capable of giving any detail of the manner in which it happened; and of these, I believe, none have attempted it.

"For my own part, I have often sat down with this resolution, and as often relinquished the melancholy task; not only from the disturbance and affliction it raised in my remembrance, but from the consideration of the impossibility of finding language capable of raising an adequate idea of the horrors of the scene I essayed to draw. But, as I believe the annals of the world cannot produce an incident like it, in any degree or proportion to all the dismal circumstances attending it, and as my own health of body and peace of mind are once again, in a great measure, restored from the injuries they suffered from that fatal night, I cannot allow it to be buried in oblivion, though still conscious, that however high the colouring my retentive memory may supply, it will fall infinitely short of the horrors accompanying this scene. These defects must, and I doubt will, be assisted by your own benevolent and humane imagination, in the exercise of which I never knew you deficient where unmerited distress was the object.

"The sea air has already had that salutary effect on my constitution I expected, and my mind enjoys a calm it has long been a stranger to, strengthened by a clear, cheerful sky and atmosphere, joined to an unusual pleasant gale, with which we are passing the equinoctial.

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then entered. This might have been accomplished as the guard over us took but very slight notice of us. I thanked him in the best terms I was able, but told him it was a step I could not prevail upon myself to take, as I should, by doing so, but ill repay the attachment the gentlemen and the garrison had shown me; and that I was resolved to share their fate, be it what it would, but pressed him to secure his own escape without loss of time. To which he gallantly replied, he was then resolved to share mine, and would not leave me.

"To myself and the world, I should surely have stood excused in embracing the overture abovementioned could I have conceived what immediately followed; for I had scarce time to make him an answer, before we observed part of the guard, drawn up on the parade, advance to us, with the officers who had been viewing the rooms; they ordered us all to rise, and go into the barracks to the left court of the yard. The barracks, you may remember, have a large wooden platform for the soldiers to sleep on, and are open to west arches, and a small parapet-wall corresponding to the veranda without. In we went most readily, and were pleasing ourselves with the prospect of having a very comfortable night on the platform, little dreaming of the infernal apartment in reserve for us. We were no sooner all within the barracks, than the guard advanced into the inner arches and parapet-wall; and with their musquets presented, ordered us to go in at the southermost end of the barracks, commonly called the black-hole prison, whilst others from the court of guard, with clubs and drawn scymitars, pressed upon those of us next to them. This shock was so sudden, so unexpected, and the throng and pressure so

great

great upon us next the door of the black-hole prison, there was no resisting it, but, like one agitated wave impelling another, we were obliged to give way and enter, the rest followed like a torrent, few amongst us, except the soldiers, having any idea of the nature or dimension of a place we had never seen, for if we had, we should have rushed upon the guard, and been, by our own choice, as the lesser evil, cut to pieces.

"Amongst the first that entered were Messrs. Baillie, Jenks, Cooke, T. Cole, Ensign Scott, Revely, Law, Buchanen, &c. &c. I got possession of the window nearest the door, and took Messrs. Cole and Scott into the window with me, they being both wounded, the first I believe mortally, the rest of the above-mentioned gentlemen were close round me. It was now about eight o'clock.

"Imagine, my friend, if possible, the situation of 146 wretches, exhausted by continual fatigue and action, thus crammed together, in a cube of about eighteen feet, in a close sultry night, in Bengal, shut up to the eastward and southward, the only quarters from whence air could reach us, by a dead wall, and by a dead wall to the north, open only by two windows to the north, strongly barred, by which we could scarcely receive the least circulation of fresh air.

"What must ensue, appeared in lively and dreadful colours, the instant I cast my eyes round the room. Many unsuccessful attempts were made to force the door; for, having nothing but our hands to work with, and the door opening inward, all endeavours were vain and useless.

"Observing every one giving way to the violence of passions, which I foresaw must be fatal to them, I requ-

quested silence might be preserved whilst I spoke to them; and, in the most pathetic terms which occurred, I begged and entreated, that, as they had paid a ready obedience to me in the day, they would now, for their own sakes, and the sakes of those who were dear to them, and who were interested in the preservation of their lives, regard the advice I had to give them. I assured them the return of day would give us air and liberty, urged to them that the only chance left to us for sustaining our misfortunes, and surviving the night, was the preserving a calm mind, and quiet resignation to our fate, entreating them to curb, as much as possible, every agitation of mind and body, as raving, and giving loose to their passions, could answer no purpose, but hastening their destruction.

"This remonstrance produced a short interval of peace, and gave me a few minutes for reflection, though even this pause was not a little disturbed by the cries and groans of the many wounded, and more particularly of my two companions in the window. Death, attended with the most cruel train of circumstances, I plainly perceived must prove our most inevitable destiny. I had seen this common migration in many shapes, and accustomed myself to think on the subject with too much propriety, to be alarmed at the prospect; and, indeed, felt much more for my wretched companions than myself.—Amongst the guards posted at the window, I observed an old jemdar near us, who seemed to carry some compassion for us in his countenance; and, indeed, he was the only one in his station who discovered the least trace of humanity. I called him to me, and, in the most persuasive terms I was capable, urged him to commiserate the sufferings he was a witness to, and pressed him

him to endeavour to get us separated, half in one place, and half in another, and that he should in the morning receive 1000 rupees for this act of tenderness. He promised he would attempt it, and withdrew, but in a few minutes returned, and told me it was impossible. I then thought I had been deficient in my offer, and promised him 2000; he withdrew a second time, but returned soon, I believe with much real concern and pity, told me it was impracticable, that it could not be done but by the suba's order, and that no one dared awake him.

"During this interval, though their passions were less violent, their uneasiness increased. We had been but a few minutes confined, before every one fell into so profuse a perspiration as you can form no idea of. This, consequently, brought on a raging thirst, which still increased in proportion as the body was drained of its moisture.

"Various expedients were thought of to give more room and air. To obtain the former, it was moved to put off their clothes: this was approved as a happy motion, and in a few minutes, I believe, every man was stripped (myself, Mr. Court, and the two wounded young gentlemen by me, excepted). For a little time they flattered themselves with having gained a mighty advantage: every hat was put in motion to produce a circulation of air; and Mr. Baillie proposed that every man should sit down upon his hams. As they were truly in the situation of drowning wretches, no wonder they caught at every thing that bore a flattering appearance of saving them. This expedient was several times put in practice, and at each time many of the poor creatures whose strength was less than others, or had been more

exhausted, and could not immediately recover their legs as others did, when the word was given to rise, fell, to rise no more! for they were instantly trod to death, or suffocated. When the whole body sat down, they were so closely wedged together, that they were obliged to use many efforts before they could put themselves in motion to get up again.

"Before nine o'clock every man's thirst grew intolerable, and respiration difficult. Our situation was much more wretched than that of so many miserable animals in an exhausted receiver: no circulation of fresh air, sufficient to continue life, nor yet enough divested of its vivifying particles, to put a speedy period to it.

"Efforts were again made to force the door, but in vain. Many insults were used to the guards, to provoke them to fire in upon us (which, as I learned afterwards, were carried to much greater lengths, when I was no more sensible of what was transacted). For my own part, I hitherto felt little pain or uneasiness, but what resulted from my anxiety for the sufferings of those within. By keeping my face between two of the bars, I obtained air enough to give my lungs easy play, though my perspiration was excessive, and thirst commencing. At this period, so strong a urinous volatile effluvia came from the prison, that I was not able to turn my head that way, for more than a few seconds at a time.

"Now every body, excepting those situated in and near the windows, began to grow outrageous, and many delirious. "Water! water!" became the general cry; and the old jemdar before-mentioned, taking pity on us, ordered the people to bring some skins of water, little dreaming, I believe, of its fatal effects.

This

This was what I dreaded. I foresaw it would prove the ruin of the small chance left us, and essayed many times to speak to him privately, to forbid its being brought; but the clamor was so loud, it became impossible. The water appeared. Words cannot paint to you the universal agitation and raving the sight of it threw us into. I had flattered myself that some, by preserving an equal temper of mind, might outlive the night; but now the reflection, which gave me the greatest pain, was, that I saw no possibility of one escaping to tell the dismal tale.

"Until the water came, I had not myself suffered much from thirst, which instantly became excessive. We had no means of conveying it into the prison, but by hats forced through the bars; and thus myself, and Messrs. Coles and Scott (notwithstanding the pains they suffered from their wounds), supplied them as fast as possible. But those who have experienced intense thirst, or are acquainted with the cause and nature of this appetite, will be sufficiently sensible it could receive no more than a momentary alleviation—the cause still subsisted. Though we brought full hats within the bars, there ensued such struggles, and frequent contests to get at it, that before it could reach any one, there would be scarcely a tea-cupful left in them. These supplies, like sprinkling water upon fire, only served to feed and raise the flame.

"Oh! my dear sir, how shall I be able to give you a description of what I felt at the cries and ravings of those in a remoter part of the prison, who could not entertain a probable hope of obtaining a drop, yet could not divest themselves of expectation, however unavailing! and others calling on me by the tender considera-

tion of friendship and affection, and who knew they were really dear to me. Think, if possible, what my heart must have suffered at hearing, and seeing their distress, without having it in my power to relieve them; for the confusion now became general and horrid. Several quitted the other window, the only chance they had for life, to force their way to the water, and the throng and press upon the window was beyond bearing; many forcing their passage from the other end of the room, pressed down those in their way, who had less strength, and trampled them to death.

"Can it gain belief, that this scene of misery proved a source of entertainment to those brutal wretches without? but so it was; and they took care to supply us with water, that they might have the pleasure of seeing us fight for it, as they phrased it, and held up light to the bars, that they might lose no part of the inhuman diversion.

"From about nine till near eleven, I sustained this cruel scene, and painful situation, supplying them with water, though my legs were almost broke with the weight against them. By this time, I myself was very near pressed to death, and my two companions, with Mr. William Parker, were really so, the latter had forced himself into the window.

"For a great while they preserved a respect and regard for me, more than, indeed, I could well expect, circumstances considered; but now all distinction was lost. My friends Baillie, Messrs. Jenks, Revely, Law, Buchanan, Simpson, and several others for whom I had a real esteem and affection, had for some time been dead at my feet, and were now trampled upon by every corporal, or common soldier, who, by help of mere

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robust constitution, had forced their way to the window, and held by the bars over me, till at last I became so pressed and wedged up, that I was deprived of all motion.

"Determined now to give every thing up, I called to them, and begged, as the last instance of their regard, they would remove the pressure from me, and permit me to retire from the window to die quietly. They gave way, and with much difficulty I forced a passage into the centre of the room, where the throng was less, by the many dead (then amounting, I believe, to one third), and the numbers who had flocked to the windows, for by this time they had water also at the other window. In the black-hole there was a platform, which raised between three and four feet from the floor, open underneath; it extended the whole length of the east side of the prison, and was about six feet wide, corresponding with that in the barracks. I travelled over the dead, and repaired to the other end of it, just opposite the other window, and seated myself on the platform between Mr. Dumbleton and Captain Stevenson, the former just then expiring. I was still happy in the same calmness of mind I had preserved all the evening; death I expected as unavoidable, and only lamented its slow approach, though the moment I quitted the window, my breathing grew short and painful.

"Here my poor friend, Mr. Edmund Eyre, came staggering over the dead to me, and, with his usual coolness and good nature, asked me how I did? but fell and expired before I had time to make him a reply. I laid myself down on some of the dead behind me, on the platform, and recommending myself to heaven, had

the comfort of thinking my sufferings could have no long duration. My thirst grew more insupportable, and difficulty of breathing much increased; and I had not remained in this situation, I believe, ten minutes, when I was seized with a pain in my breast, and palpitation of the heart, both to a most exquisite degree. These roused me, and obliged me to get up again; but still the pain, palpitation, thirst, and difficulty of breathing increased. I retained my senses, notwithstanding, and had the grief to see death not so near me as I hoped, but could no longer suffer the pains I endured without a relief, which fresh air would, and could only give me. I instantly determined to push to the window opposite to me, and by an effort of double the strength I ever before possessed, gained the third rank at it; with one hand seized a bar, and by that means gained a second; though, I think, there were above six or seven bars between me and the window.

"In a few moments, my pain, and difficulty of breathing, ceased; but my thirst continued intolerable. I called aloud for "WATER, FOR GOD'S SAKE!" I had been concluded dead; but as soon as they heard me amongst them, they had still so much respect and tenderness for me as to cry out, "*Give him water, give him water!*" nor would one of them at the window attempt to touch it till I had drank. But from the water I found no relief, my thirst was rather increased by it; so I determined to drink no more, but patiently wait the event, and keep my mouth moist from time to time by sucking the perspiration out of my shirt-sleeves, and catching the drops as they fell, like heavy rain, from my head and face; you can hardly imagine how unhappy I was if any one of them escaped my mouth.

"I came

"I came into the prison without a coat or waistcoat; the season was too hot to bear the former, and the latter tempted the avarice of one of the guards, who robbed me of it when we were under the veranda. Whilst I was at this second window, I was observed, by one of my miserable companions on the right of me, in the expedient of allaying my thirst by sucking my shirt-sleeve. He took the hint, and robbed me, from time to time, of a considerable part of my store; though, after I detected him, I had even the address to begin on that sleeve next to him, when I thought my reservoirs were sufficiently replenished, and our mouths and noses often met in the contest. This plunderer I afterwards found was a worthy young gentleman in the service, Mr. Lushington, of the few who escaped from death, and since paid me the compliment of assuring me he believed he owed his life to the many comfortable draughts he had from my sleeves.

"I mention this incident, as I think nothing can give a more lively idea of the melancholy state and distress we were reduced to. Before I hit upon this happy expedient, I had, in an ungovernable fit of thirst, attempted to drink my urine; but it was so intensely bitter, that there was no enduring a second taste, whereas no Bristol water could be more soft, or pleasant, than what arose from perspiration.

"By half an hour past eleven, the much greater number of those living were in an outrageous delirium, and the others quite ungovernable, few retaining any calmness, but the ranks next the window. By what I had felt myself, I was fully sensible what those within suffered, but had only pity to give them, not then thinking

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ing how soon I should become myself a greater object of it.

"They all now found that water, instead of relieving, rather heightened their uneasiness, and "Air! air!" was the general cry. Every insult that could be devised against, all the opprobrious names and abuse that Suba, Monichaund, appointed by Suba, governor of Calcutta, could be loaded with, were repeated to provoke the guard to fire upon us; every man that could, rushed tumultuously towards the windows, with eager hope of meeting the first shot: then a general prayer to heaven to hasten the approach of the flames to the right and left of us, and put a period to our misery. But these failing, they whose strength and spirits were exhausted, laid themselves down, and expired quietly upon their fellow-sufferers; others, who had yet some strength and vigor left, made a last effort for the windows; and several succeeded by leaping and scrambling over the backs and heads of those of the first ranks, and got hold of the bars, from whence there was no removing them. Many to the right and left sunk with the heavy pressure, and were soon suffocated; for now a steam arose from the living and the dead, which affected us in all its circumstances, as if we were forcibly held with our heads over a bowl full of volatile spirits of hartshorn, until suffocated; nor could the effluvia of the one be distinguished from the other, and frequently when I was forced, by the load upon my head and shoulders, to hold my face down, I was obliged, near as I was to the window, instantly to raise it again to escape suffocation.

"I need not, my dear friend, ask your commiseration,

tion, when I tell you, that, in this plight, from half an hour past eleven, till near two in the morning, I sustained the weight of a man, with his knees on my back, and the pressure of his whole body on my head. A Dutch serjeant, who had taken his seat upon my left shoulder, and a topaz, a black christian soldier, usually termed subjects of Portugal, leaning on my right; all which nothing could have enabled me long to support, but the props and pressures equally sustaining me all around; the two latter I frequently dislodged, by shifting my hold on the bars, and driving my knuckles into their ribs; but my friend above stuck fast, and, as he held by two bars, was immoveable.

"When I had bore this conflict above an hour, with a train of wretched reflections, and seeing no glimpse of hope on which to found a prospect of relief, my spirits, resolution, and every sentiment of religion, gave way. I found I was unable much longer to support this trial, and could not bear the dreadful thoughts of retiring into the inner part of the prison, where I had before suffered so much. Some infernal spirit taking the advantage of this period, brought to my remembrance my having a small clasp-knife in my pocket, with which I determined instantly to open my arteries, and finish a system no longer to be borne. I had got it out, when Heaven interposed, and restored to me fresh spirit and resolution, with an abhorrence of the act of cowardice I was just going to commit; I exerted anew my strength and fortitude; but the repeated trial and efforts I made to dislodge my incumbrances upon me at last quite exhausted me; and towards two o'clock, finding I must quit the window, or sink where I was, I resolved on the

the former, having born truly for the sake of others infinitely more for life, than the lust of it was worth.

"In the rank close behind me was an officer of one of the ships, whose name was Carey, and who had behaved with great bravery during the siege; his wife, a fine woman, though country born, would not quit him, but accompanied him into prison, and was one who survived. This poor wretch had been long raving for water and air. I told him I was determined to give up life, and advised him to gain my station. On my quitting he made a fruitless attempt to get my place, but the Dutch serjeant supplanted him.

"Poor Carey expressed his thankfulness, and said he would give up life too; but it was with the utmost labour we forced our way from the window (several in the ranks appearing to me dead standing, unable to fall, by the throng and equal pressure around). He laid himself down to die, and his death was, I believe, very sudden; for he was a short, full, sanguine man, his strength was great, and, I believe, without him, I should never have been able to have forced my way.

"I was at this time little sensible of my pain and uneasiness. I can give you no better idea of my situation than by repeating my simile of the bowl of spirits of hartshorn. I found a stupor coming on apace, and laid myself down by that gallant old man, the Reverend Jarvis Bellamy, who lay down near his son the lieutenant, hand in hand, near the southernmost wall of the prison.

"When I had lain there sometime, I had still reflexion enough to suffer some little uneasiness in the thought, that I should be trampled upon when dead,

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as I myself had done to others. With some difficulty I raised myself, and gained the platform a second time, where I presently lost all sensation; the last trace of sensibility I have been able to recollect after my lying down, was my sash being uneasy about my waist, which I untied and threw from me.

"Of what passed at this interval, to the time of my resurrection from this hole of horrors, I can give you no account; and indeed, the particulars mentioned by some of the gentlemen who survived, solely by the numbers of those dead, by which they gained a freer accession of air, and approach to the windows, were so excessively absurd and contradictory, as to convince me very few of them retained their senses, or at least lost them soon after coming in the open air, by the fever they carried out with them.

"In my own escape from absolute death, the hand of Providence was manifestly exerted; the manner take as follows:—When the day broke, and the gentlemen found that not intreaties would prevail to get the door opened, it occurred to one of them, I think Mr. Secretary Cook, to make a search for me, in hopes I might have influence enough to gain a release from this scene of misery. Accordingly Messrs. Lushington and Walcot undertook the search, and by my shirt discovered me under the dead upon the platform. They took me from thence, and imagining I had some signs of life, brought me towards the window I had first possession of.

"But as life was equally dear to every man, and the stench arising from the dead bodies was grown intolerable, no one would give up his station in or near the window, so that they were obliged to carry me back again, but Captain Miles, now captain of the company's yacht

yacht, resigned, with great humanity, his seat in the window to me.

"At this juncture the Juba, who had received an account of the havock death had made amongst us, sent one of his Jemdars to enquire if the chief survived. They showed me to him, said I had appearances of life remaining, and believed I might recover if the door was opened very soon. This answer being returned to the Suba, an order came immediately for our release, it being near six in the morning.

"The fresh air at the window soon brought me to life, and a few minutes after the departure of the Jemdar, I was restored to my sight and senses. But oh! sir, what words shall I adopt to tell you the whole that my soul suffered at reviewing the dreadful destruction round me? I will not attempt it; and, indeed, tears, a tribute I believe I shall ever pay to the remembrance of this scene, and to those brave and valuable men—stop my pen.

"The little strength remaining amongst the most robust who survived, made it a difficult task to remove the dead piled up against the door, so that I believe it was more than twenty minutes before we obtained a passage out for one at a time.

"I had soon reason to be convinced the particular enquiry made after me did not result from any dictate of favour, humanity, or contrition; when I came out I found myself in a high putrid fever, and not being able to stand, threw myself on the wet grass without the veranda, when a message was brought me, signifying I must immediately attend the Suba. Not being capable of walking, they were obliged to support me under each arm, and on the way, one of the Jemdars told me, as a

friend, to a make a full confession where the treasure was buried in the fort, or that in half an hour I should be shot off from the mouth of a cannon, a sentence of death too common in Indostan. The intimation gave me no manner of concern, for at that juncture I should have esteemed death as the greatest favour the tyrant could have bestowed upon me.

"Being brought into his presence, he soon observed the wretched plight I was in, and ordered a large folio volume, which lay on a heap of plunder, to be brought for me to sit on. I endeavoured two or three times to speak, but my tongue was dry, and without motion. He ordered me water. As soon as I could speak, I began to recount the dreadful catastrophe of my miserable companions; but he stopped me short, by telling me he was well informed of great treasure being buried or secreted in the fort, and that I was privy to it, and if I expected favour I must discover it.

"I urged every thing I could to convince him in the negative, or if there was it was without my knowledge. I reminded him of his repeated assurances to me the day before, but he resumed the subject of the treasure, and all I could say seemed to gain no credit with him. I was ordered prisoner under Mhir Muddon, general of the household troops.

"Amongst the guard who bore me from Suba, one bore a large Mahratta battle axe, which gave rise to Mr. Secretary Cooke's belief and report to the fleet, that he saw me carried out, with the edge of the axe towards me, to have my head struck off. This, I believe, is the only account you will have of me, till I bring you a better myself. But to return to my subject, I was ordered to the camp to Mhir Muddon's quarters, with

the outward ditch, something short of Omychund's garden, which you know is about three miles from the fort, and with me Messrs. Coutts, Walcots, and Burdet. The rest who survived the fatal night gained their liberty, except Mrs. Carey, who was too young and handsome. The dead bodies were promiscuously thrown into the ditch of our unfinished ravelin, and covered with the earth.

"My being treated with this severity, I have sufficient reason to affirm, proceeded from the following causes:—The Suba's resentment for my defending the fort, after the governor, &c. had abandoned it, his prepossession to the treasure, and thirdly, the instigation of Omychund, a great gentoo merchant of Calcutta, in resentment for my not releasing him out of prison as soon as I had the command of the fort; a circumstance, which in the hurry and heat of the action never once occurred to me, or I had certainly done it, because I thought his imprisonment unjust. But that the hard treatment I met with, may be truly attributed to his suggestions and insinuations I am well assured, from the whole of his subsequent conduct; and it was further confirmed to me in the three gentlemen selected to be my companions, against each of whom he had conceived particular resentment, and you know Omychund can never forgive.

"We were conveyed in a hackney coach, drawn by oxen, to the camp, the 21st of June, in the morning, soon loaded with fetters, and stowed all four in a Seapoy's tent, about four feet long, three wide, and about three high, so that we were half in, half out, all night it rained severely; dismal as it was, it appeared a paradise compared to our lodging the preceding night.

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Here I became covered from head to foot with large painful boils, the first symptom of my recovery, for until these appeared my fever did not leave me.

"On the morning of the 22d, they marched us to town in our fetters, under the scorching beams of an intense hot sun, and lodged us at the dock-head, in the open small veranda fronting the river, where we had a strong guard placed over us, commanded by Bunda Sing Hanary, an officer under Mhir Muddon. Here the other gentlemen likewise broke out in boils all over their bodies; a happy circumstance, which, as I afterwards learned, attended every one who came out of the black hole.

"On our arrival at this place we were soon given to understand, we should be embarked for Muxadabad, the capital of Bengal, where, I think, you have never been, and since I have brought you this far, you may as well take this trip with us likewise. I have much leisure on my hands at present, and you know you may choose your time for perusal.

"We set out on our travels from the dock-head on the 24th, in the afternoon, and were embarked in a large wallack, a long boat, containing part of Bundo Sing's plunder, &c. She bulged ashore a little after we set off, and broke one of her floor-timbers; however they pushed on, though she made so much water she could hardly swim. Our bedstead and bedding were a platform of unequal bamboos, laid on the bottom timbers, so that when they had been negligent in baiting, we frequently waked with half of us in the water. We had hardly any cloaths to our bodies, and nothing but a bit of mat, and a bit or two of old gummy-rag, which we begged at dock-head, to defend us from the sun, rains, and dews;

our food only rice, and the water along-side, which you know is neither very clean nor very palatable, in the rains; but there was enough of it without scrambling. In short, sir, though our distress in this situation, covered with tormenting boils, and loaded with irons, will be thought, and doubtless was, very deplorable, yet the grateful consideration of our being so providentially a remnant of the saved, made every thing else appear light to us. Our rice and water diet, designed as a grievance to us, was certainly our preservation, for could we (circumstanced as we were) have indulged in flesh and wine, we had died beyond all doubt.

"When we arrived at Highly-fort, I wrote a short letter to general Bisdom, by means of a pencil and blank leaf of a volume of Archbishop Tillotson's Sermons, given us by one of our guard, part of his plunder, advising him of our miserable plight. He had the humanity to dispatch after us three different boats, with *fresh* provisions, liquors, cloaths, and money, neither of which reached us. But, whatever is, is right; our rice and water were more salutary and proper for us.

"Matters ridiculous and droll abundantly occurred in the course of our trip; but these I will defer for personal recital, that I may laugh with you, and only mention that my hands alone being free from imposthumes, I was obliged for some time to turn nurse, and to feed my poor distressed companions.

"When we were opposite Santipore, they found the wallack would not be able to proceed further for want of water in the river, and one of the guard was sent on shore to demand of the Zemindar, a proprietor of land of that district, light boats, to carry prisoners of state to Muxadabad. The Zemindar gave no credit to the fellow

low, mustered his guard of pikes, beat him, and drove him away.

"This, on the return of the Burkandass, raised a most furious combustion. Our Jemdar ordered his people to arms, and the resolution was to take the Zemindar, and carry him prisoner to Muxadabad. Accordingly, they landed with their fire-arms, swords, and targets, when it occurred to one mischievous mortal, that the taking me with them would be a proof of their commission, and the high offence the Zemindar had committed.

"Being immediately dragged ashore, I urged the impossibility of my walking, covered as my legs were with boils, and several of them in the way of my fetters: and intreated, if I must go, that they would, for the time, take off my irons, as it was not in my power to escape from them, for they saw I was not able to stand; but I might as well have petitioned tigers, or made supplications to the wind. I was obliged to crawl. They signified to me, it was now my business to obey, and I must remember I was not now in the Kella of Allynagore (the name given to Calcutta by the Suba, after the capture): thus was I marched in a scorching sun, near noon, for more than a mile and a half; my legs running with blood from the irritations of my fetters, and myself ready to drop every minute, from excessive faintness and unspeakable pain.

"When we came near the cutcherry of the district, the Zemindar, with his pikes, were drawn up ready to receive us; but as soon as they presented me to him as a prisoner of state, estimated and valued to them at four lack of rupees, (50,000l.) he confessed himself sensible of his mistake, and made no further show of resistance.

The Jemdar seized him, and gave orders to have him bound, and sent to the boat; but, on his making farther submission, and promising to get boats from Santipore to send after us, and agreeing to pay them for the trouble he had caused, he was released, and thus were matters accommodated.

"I was become so very low and weak from this journey, that it was some time before they could venture to bring me back; and the stony-hearted villains, for their own sakes, were obliged to carry me part of the way, and support me the rest, covering me with their shields. A poor fellow, one of our gomastuers at Santipore, seeing me at the cutchery, knew me, and, with tears in his eyes, presented me with a bunch of plantains, the half of which my guard plundered by the way.

"We departed from hence directly, in expectation of boats following us, but they never came; and the next day, I think the last of June, they pressed a small open fishing-dingy, and embarked us in that, with two of our guard only; for, in fact, any more would have sunk her. Here we had a bed of bamboos, something softer, I think, than those of the great boat, that is, they were something easier; but we were so distressed for room, that we could not stir without bruising our own or each others boils, and were in woeful distress, indeed, not arriving at Muxadabad until the 7th of June in the afternoon. We were all this while exposed to one regular succession of heavy rain, or intense sunshine, and nothing to defend us from either.

"But then do not let me forget our blessings; for, by the good nature of one of our guard, Sheik Budel, we now and then got a few plantains, onions, parched rice,

rice, with jagree, (molasses) and the bitter green, called culla, all which were to us luxurious indulgencies, and made the rice go down deliciously.

"On the 7th of June, early in the morning, we came in sight of the French factory; I had a letter prepared for Mr. Law, the chief, and prevailed on my friend Budel to put to there. On receipt of my letter Mr. Law, with much politeness and humanity, came down to the water-side, and remained near an hour with us. He gave the sheik a genteel present, for his civilities offered him a considerable reward, and security if he would permit us to land for an hour's refreshment; but he replied his head would pay for the indulgence. After Mr. Law had given us a supply of cloaths, linen, provisions, liquors, and cash, we left his factory with grateful hearts and compliments.

"We could not, as you may imagine, long resist touching on our stock of provisions; but however temperate we thought ourselves, we were all disordered, more or less, by this first indulgence. A few hours after I was seized with a painful inflammation in my right leg and thigh.

"Passing by our fort and factory at Cossimbukar, raise some melancholy reflections amongst us. About four in the afternoon we landed at Muxadabad, and were conducted to, and deposited in an open stable, not far from the Suba's palace in the city.

"This march, I will freely confess, drew tears of disdain and anguish, at least, from me, thus to be led, like a felon, a spectacle to the inhabitants of this populous city! My soul could not support itself with any degree of patience: the pain too arising from my boils, added

added not, a little, I believe, to my depression of spirits.

" Here we had a guard of moors placed on one side of us, and a guard of gentoos on the other, and being destined to remain in this place of purgatory until the Suba's return to the city, I can give you no idea of our sufferings. The immense crowd of spectators who came from all parts of the city, to satisfy their curiosity, so blocked us up from morning till night, that I may truly say we escaped a second suffocation. The season proved extremely sultry.

" The first night after our arrival in the stable I was attacked by a fever, and that night, and next day, the inflammation in my leg and thigh greatly increased; but all terminated next day in a regular fit of the gout in my right foot and ancle; the first and last fit of this kind I ever had. How much my irons agreed with this new visitor I leave you to judge; for I could not so much as obtain liberty by any intreaty for that poor leg.

" During our residence here we experienced every act of humanity and friendship from Monsieur Law, and Mynheer Vernet, the French and Dutch chiefs of Cossimbuzar, who left no means unessayed to procure our release. Our provisions were regularly sent us from the Dutch tanbasall (the Dutch mint in Muxadabad) in Coriemmadab; and we were daily visited by Messrs. Ross and Ekstone, the chief and second there; and, indeed, received such instances of commiseration and affection from Mynheer Ross, as will ever claim my most grateful remembrance.

" The whole body of Armenian merchants, too, were most kind and friendly, particularly Aga Manuel Satour.

We

We were not a little indebted to the obliging, good-natured behaviour of Messrs. Hastings and Chambers, who gave us as much of their company as they could; they had obtained their liberty by the French and Dutch chiefs becoming bail for their appearance. This security was often tendered for us, but without effect.

"The 11th of July, the Suba arrived in the city, and with him Bunda Sing, to whose house we were removed that afternoon, in a hackery, for I was not able to put my foot to the ground. Here we were confirmed in a report which had before reached us, that the Suba, on his return to Hughly, made enquiry for us, when he released Messrs. Watts, Collett, &c. with an intention to release us also; and, that he had expressed some resentment to Mhir Muddon, for having so hastily sent us up to Muxadabad. This proved a very pleasing piece of intelligence, and gave us reason to hope the issue would prove more favourable to us than we expected.

"Though we were here lodged in an open bungula only, yet we found ourselves relieved from the crowd which had stifled us at the stable, and once more breathed the fresh air. We were treated by Bundow Sing with much kindness and respect, who generally spent some part of the day with us, and feasted us with hopes of being soon released.

"The 15th we were conducted to the Kella (the seat of the Suba's residence in Muxadabad), in order to have an audience with the Suba, and know our fate. We were kept an hour at the gate opposite the sun, whilst here we saw several of his ministers brought and disgraced, in the custody of Soolaffoordars, and dismissed from their employ, who, but a few minutes before, we had seen enter with the utmost pomp and magnificence.

"Receivin-

"Receiving advice that we should have no audience or admittance to the Suba that day, we were again deposited in our former lodging, the stable, to be in readiness, and had the mortification of passing another night there.

"The 16th in the morning, an old female, attendant of Ally Cawn Begum (the dowager princess, grandmother of Suraja Dowla), paid a visit to our Sheik, and discoursed half an hour with him. Overhearing part of the conversation to be favorable to us, I obtained the whole from him, and learned, at the feast the preceding night, Bunda had solicited our liberty, and that the Suba had promised he would release us on the morrow. This, you may believe, gave us no small spirits; but all our hopes were dashed by a piece of intelligence from Bunda Sing, imparting, that an order was passed, and sealed, for returning us in irons to Monichaud Governor of Allyngore, the name the Suba had given to Calcutta.

"I need not tell you what a thundering clap this proved to us at the very height of our expectations; for I was, to myself, convinced I should never have got alive out of the hands of that rapacious harpy, who is a genuine Hindoo (or Gentoo) in the very worst acceptation of the word, therefore had given up every hope of liberty.

"Men in this state of mind are generally pretty easy; it is hope that gives anxiety. We dined, and laid ourselves down to sleep, and, for my own part, I never enjoyed a sounder afternoon's nap.

"Towards five the Sheik waked me, with notice, that the Suba would presently pass by to his palace at Mootegul. We roused, and desired the guard would keep the

the view clear for us. When the Suba came in sight we made the u ual salam; and when he came abreast of us he ordered his litter to stop, and ordered us to be brought to him. We advanced, and addressed him in a short speech, stating our sufferings, and petitioned for our liberty. The wretched spectacle we made must, I think, have made an impression on a mind the most brutal; and if he is capable of pity, or contrition, his heart must have felt it at that moment: I think it appeared, in spite of him, in his countenance. He made me no reply; but ordered a Sutapuridor and Chubdaar, immediately to see our irons cut off, and conduct us where we chose to go, and take care we received no trouble or insult; and having repeated this order distinctly, ordered his retinue to go on. As soon as our legs were free we took a boat, and proceeded to the Ranksall, where we were received and entertained with real joy and humanity.

"Thus, my dear friend, you see us restored to liberty, at a time when we could entertain no probable hope of obtaining it: the foundation of the alarm was this; Monelolt, Suba's dervan, and some others, had, in the morning, taken no small pains to convince the Suba, "that, notwithstanding my losses at Allynagore, I was still possessed of enough to pay a considerable sum for my freedom, and advised the sending me to Monichaud, who would be better able to trace out the remainder of my effects." To this I afterwards found the Suba replied, "It may be: if he has any thing left, let him keep it, his sufferings have been great, he shall have his liberty." Whether this was the result of his own sentiments, or the consequence of the promise he had made the evening before to the old Begum, I cannot say.

say; but we believe, we owe our freedom partly to both.

"Being myself more at liberty, it is time I should release you, sir, also, from the unpleasing travel I have led you in this narrative of our distresses from our entrance into the Black-hole. And shall it after all be said, or even thought, that I can possibly have arraigned or commented too severely on a conduct which alone plunged us into those unequalled sufferings? I hope not.

"I am, dear Sir, &c.

"I. Z. HOLWELL."

To this letter nothing more need be added on the circumstances of which it treats; the arrival of Admiral Watson with his squadron, was a very agreeable event to the British, who had thus been compelled to leave Calcutta, and had experienced a most painful adversity. The admiral immediately set about putting himself in condition to attempt its recovery.

The squadron sailed from Falta the 27th of December, with a body of king's and company's troops, under Col. Clive and Capt. Coote, (both afterwards enobled) which were landed on the 29th, when preparations were made, in the first instance, for

THE SIEGE OF BOUGEE-BOUGEE.

This was a fort belonging to the nabob. The troops were to attack it by land, while the squadron cannonaded it. The fleet met a warm reception, but the forces being landed they took possession of two outposts, which the enemy had abandoned. Colonel Clive, after a most fatiguing march, posted his men in different bodies round the fort, to cut off the retreat of the garrison; and the admiral sent two nine-pounders

ashore from his own ship, to enable Col. Clive to make a breach in the walls.

The nabob, on his part, resolved to make a bold push to raise the siege; his efforts, however, were powerless; and, upon a shot piercing the turban of Monichund, his principal general, and governor of Calcutta, he was compelled to leave it to its fate. The garrison yet continued a spirited firing of small arms, and fire-arrows.

A council of war was therefore held on board the Kent man of war, consisting of sea and land officers, when it was resolved to storm the place the following morning; and the admiral sent ashore a detachment of seamen, under the command of Captain King, to assist in the operation. Colonel Clive ordered his troops to rest on their arms all night, in order to be ready to attempt the breach at day-break. But their complex, yet necessary preparations were all rendered a nullity, by one of those incidents which occasion the sport of fortune, to shew her power over the affairs of men.

All was quiet in the camp, and the principal officers of the fleet were availing themselves of the present moment for a little rest; when suddenly a confused, but loud acclamation was heard from the shore, and in a short time the admiral received information that the fort had been taken by storm. No news could be more acceptable, and yet so unexpected, as scarcely to admit of belief, till a little further time produced the very singular particulars.

From these it appeared, that during the tranquil state of the camp, a sailor, of the name of Strachan, having received his portion of grog (arrack mixed with

water), his spirits were too much elated to suffer him to rest, and, inconscious of danger, he strayed by himself towards the fort, and imperceptibly got under the walls. Being arrived thus far safely, he soon discovered the breach which had been made by the cannon of the ships, and determined upon scaling it; he effected his purpose, and, at length, appeared on the bastion. On the platform were several moors, whom he saluted by firing his pistol, and flourishing his cutlass; he soon made way among them, exclaiming,—"*Huzza! huzza! the place is mine!*" He was soon overwhelmed with numbers, and had the blade of his cutlass cut in two about a foot from the hilt; but he defended himself, nevertheless, with incomparable resolution, and kept them at bay till two or three other sailors, who had accidentally straggled that way arrived, and reinforcing him, re-echoed the triumph, which arouzed the whole of the soldiery, who fell on, helter skelter, without any other orders or leader than Strachan, and soon obtained complete possession of the fort. In it were found eighteen pieces of cannon, from twenty-four pounders downwards, and forty barrels of gunpowder. The place was situated for defence, having a wet ditch all round, and considering the sort of troops with which it was defended, it made a defence much beyond expectation. Captain Dougald Campbell was the only individual who fell, by a shot from one of his own canoes.

It was sincerely to be lamented, that so brave and unique an action (for such it indisputably was) should have been veiled by its irregularity, so dangerous to every measure, from its due portion of praise; Strachan's exploit, doubtless, saved a number of useful lives become

become doubly valuable under the existing circumstances; but such attempts could not be sanctioned by the allowance even of ordinary praise in this instance, where so much was deserved. Forts might, sometimes, be taken by such means, and always insure credit to the captors, but that they strike at the root of all subordination and order, and must often fail, with the most dreadful consequences, is obvious to the slightest consideration. The hero, therefore, was necessarily brought before the admiral to answer for the breach of military discipline, though, it may be supposed, without great apprehensions of severity, or danger of very strict scrutiny. The examination began, according to Mr. Ives (author of the Voyage to India, who was present), with "Strachan, what have you been doing?" The brave fellow, after having made his bow, scratched his head, and with one hand twirled his hat on the other, replied, "*Why, to be sure, sir, it was I who took the fort, but I hope there was no harm in it.*" The admiral, with difficulty, suppressed a smile, while the company who surrounded him were convulsed with laughter at the simplicity of the answer, and the singularity of the account which he gave of the whole transaction. Admiral Watson then expatiated on the danger that might have attended his irregular conduct, explaining to him the difference between a constant bravery exerted in the line of his duty, and the incoherent effect of a momentary impulse; and concluded by hinting, that he was not to consider himself perfectly acquitted of his violation of duty. Strachan, amazed to find himself blamed for an action which he naturally believed, and which, under any other circumstances, would have deserved the highest applause, retired from the cabin with a

thoughtful countenance, muttering to some of his messmates on the way, *" If I am flogged for this here action, I'll never take another fort by myself as long as I live, by G—d!"*

The singularity of the enterprize, its success, and the fearless spirit which the man displayed, pleaded strongly with the admiral in his behalf, and made him anxious to remove from him even the pain of his displeasure, which he did through the medium of his officers' supposed intercession. He would also have appointed him as boatswain on board one of the king's ships, but his irregularities were so great both before and after his storming the fort, as to render it impossible.

On the evening of the 30th December, the troops were employed to demolish the forts of Bougee-Bougee and Tasma, which was evacuated in their favor. Success, with but very few draw-backs, continued to crown the British arms, till Calcutta was regained, Surajah Dowla deposed, and the affairs of the East-India company in that quarter in a state of greater splendor than had been hitherto reached or known.

We cannot dismiss this account without a few remarks on the subsequent fate and character of Strachan; the brave, but unfortunate hero of Bougee-Bougee. We have already stated, that the irregularities of Strachan precluded his advancement, in the ordinary routine of private seamen, and they appear to have continued to produce the same effect. Yet this intrepid fellow, according to Mr. Beatson, (Naval and Military Memoirs) continued to serve through every engagement between Admiral Pocock, the successor of Admiral Watson, and the French, in the East-Indies; and receiving a wound in one of them, became a pensioner

to

to the Chest at Chatham. It is painful to add, that, according to the same writer, he was since a common sailor on board of one of the guard-ships at Portsmouth.

We have heard, however, but with what authenticity we can by no means pledge ourselves, that a naval officer, who was witness to the affair in which Strachan thus signalized himself, and who retired without arriving at any high preferment, but with an ample competence, withdrew the hero of Bougee-Bougee from his humiliating service, and kept him near him, unrestrained, as an occasional companion, for which his simplicity and great variety of adventures had admirably adapted him. Our information adds, that Strachan, though eccentric, and never conforming with a regular mode of life, was yet unpresuming, and very benevolent to the unfortunate of his own class wherever he met them. The scene of his retirement was stated to be the Isle of Wight.

Since heroism, any more than genius, is not to be created by rule, we cannot but lament that such a man could not be placed in a situation of minor trust, and proportional advantage, in which he might have scope for his manifest powers. Such glorious deviation from the cold formality of strict discipline in a character less subordinate, might have covered himself and his country with eternal laurels. As it was, he but increases those instances which prove that regularity and prudence yield a dignity to higher qualities, and that without them the highest may sink into ignominy and contempt.

We should be chargeable with inattention to the glory of our country, and the interest of our work, were we to omit, even in this small selection from the Asiatic war, some notice of the two splendid characters whom we

have mentioned in the preceding actions, and who afterwards became the principal personages in Indian affairs.

EYRE COOTE was born in 1726, of a family remotely private, and was early destined to the army, though in no very elevated situation. In the rebellion of 1745, he attended the English forces to Scotland, as a subaltern, but without any remarkable effect; and in the same rank he went to the East-Indies in the regiment of Colonel Adlerom. Here he soon obtained the rank of Captain, and distinguished himself in the reduction of Calcutta, Houghley, and Chandernagore, in 1757, as well as at the battle of Plassey, in the same year.

In 1759, he was opposed to the French general, Lally, with the rank of colonel, and from this time he displayed the qualities of a great commander, and received the applause of M. Bussey, the second in command of the French, whom he captured, for his masterly disposition and admirable movements. The reduction of the celebrated province of Arcot was the fruit of his repeated victories. In 1761, Pondicherry surrendered to his arms, after a long and obstinate siege (if it could be so called), and the French were expelled from the coast of Coromandel.

Colonel Coote now returned to his own country, covered with laurels. He was received by the East-India company with the highest honors, and presented with a diamond-hilted sword, worth 700l. In 1771, he was promoted to the rank of major-general in the East-Indies, and elected a knight of the Bath; and in 1773, he was appointed to the command of the 37th regiment of foot.

Being returned to the East-Indies at the decease of General Clavering, Sir Eyre Coote succeeded him in the

the chief command (in 1778) as lieutenant-general, and became a member of the supreme council in Bengal. In 1780, notwithstanding his impaired health, he sailed from Calcutta to oppose the invasion of Hyder Ally in person; and by his wisdom and intrepidity after successive victories, completely arrested the progress of Hyder Ally in the Carnatic. In 1782, he resigned his command to Major-General Stuart, in consequence of his increased ill health; but on its restoration in 1783, returned to resume it. He landed at Madras on the 24th April, but survived his arrival only two days.

The corpse was conveyed to England, where it was received with due military honors, and conveyed to Rockburne, in Hampshire, where Sir Eyre had a seat. It was interred in the parish-church, and a monument erected there by the East-India company; a beautiful cenotaph, by Banks, also records his memory among those of other heroes in Westminster Abbey.

From this successful and meritorious soldier of fortune, who does not turn with sanguine curiosity to his great companion in arms?

Robert, the son of Richard Clive, of Styche, in Shropshire, was born on the 29th of September, 1725, at his father's estate of that name, who, not content with its produce of 500l. a year, joined to that ancient patrimony the practice of the legal profession, and contemplated a similar direction to the mind of his infant son.

Robert Clive was first placed in the school of Dr. Eaton, at Lostock, in Cheshire, and at the age of eleven years removed to that of the Rev. Mr. Burslem, at Market Drayton; from thence he was sent, a short time after, to Merchant Taylor's school in London.

His stay there was not, however, of long duration, for his father again preferred a private tuition, and he remained under the care of Mr. Sterling, of Hemel-Hempstead, in Hertfordshire, till the age of eighteen, when he received an appointment as writer to the East-India company.

A total disinclination to subjection marked the character of this young gentleman from his earliest years, which was differently interpreted by his masters. The first boldly asserted, with a prescience too often used on the prospects of youth, that "if the lad should live to be a man, and an opportunity be given for the exertion of his talents, few names would be greater than his." Others interpreted the prognostics in a different way, and all agreed in considering him the most unlucky boy that had ever been under their care!

In 1743, Mr. Clive embarked for the East Indies, and arrived at Madras in the next year. The same impatience of restraint continued to mark his conduct in the compting-house as at the school, and his appointment became equally troublesome to his superiors and himself. He treated the secretary, under whom the writers are placed, with the most unbounded insolence, and when compelled to entreat his pardon, he did it with a contemptuous smile that entirely destroyed the effect. The secretary, nevertheless, received it with extreme goodnature, and, attributing it to the self-sufficiency of official youth, invited him, for the purpose of advice, to dinner. "No, sir," replied Clive, "the governor did not command me to *dine* with you!" He appears to have adopted the course of life at this period, which he afterwards described with so much point in the British house of commons, as the seduction of all the

the youth in the India company's service: by the means of a native, who introduced them to lawless pleasures, and supplied all their extravagances, that they might subject them to their own purposes of the most nefarious kind.

The surrender of Madras to the French, however, opened a new field to his pursuits; for their commander-in-chief refusing to recognize the parole granted by his inferior, Clive, among others, escaped, in a moorish habit, to St. David's, a distance of twenty-one miles to the south on the same coast.

At this place, still equally engaged in the pursuit of pleasure, two young officers were discovered in dishonorable practices at play, and their opponents refused to pay till intimidated by their threats. Clive, however, was determined, and readily accepted the challenge. He delivered his fire without hesitation, when his antagonist quitting his ground, and presenting his pistol to his head, desired him to ask his life. He did so; but this concession produced another—he must also retract, and promise to pay the money (of which he had been cheated): "Fire, then, and be d——d," said Clive. "I said you cheated, I say so still, nor will I ever pay you!" The officer finding remonstrance was vain, called him madman, and threw away his pistol. Clive's acquaintance complimenting him on the result, he made an answer equally honorable to him as his courage. "The man," said he, "has given me my life, and I have no right ever again to mention his behaviour, though I will neither pay him, nor keep him company."

All circumstances combined in transferring Clive at this time from the civil to the military service; he, therefore, obtained a commission in 1747. In 1748, the

the young ensign distinguished himself at the attack on Pondicherry in defending the advanced trench. He received several shots in his clothes, but escaped unhurt. In the heat of action his powder being exhausted, and not waiting to send a serjeant, he ran to the next trench for a supply: this circumstance was made use of to his prejudice by an officer in his absence, and Clive, on meeting him, desired satisfaction, upon which the officer struck him a blow on the ear. Clive instantly drew, and the other did the same, but both were put under arrest, and a court of enquiry compelled the officer to ask his pardon at the head of the battalion. No notice had, however, been taken of the blow, to prevent further injury to the officer. Clive, therefore, forebore till they both returned to St. Fort St. David's, when he demanded satisfaction for that also. The officer considered he had done enough already, and Clive laid his cane on his head in return, as a mark of contempt for his character. The officer afterwards resigned.

When peace precluded any further military projects, a dispute arose between the two rajahs, who claimed Ranjore as their rightful inheritance, in which Clive gladly joined, and evinced a bravery almost equal to madness. Such spirit soon decided the quarrel, and he returned to the civil establishment with the same rank as if he had not left it; to which also was now added, by the kindness of Major Lawrence, the lucrative appointment of commissary to the British troops. He had not been long settled at Madras, when a fever of the nervous kind entirely shattered his constitution, and ever after preyed upon his spirits.

In 1751, a further interference among the native powers being determined on, Clive resumed the mili-

tary character with the commission of captain, and repeated his desperate bravery in a variety of instances. In short, his history at this period wears the air of romance rather than cool detail; for in no other instance was such a number of hair-breadth escapes accumulated, or the most valuable properties of a general displayed as during the period of this native war, according to the best accounts, by this young and fortunate officer. The enemy being driven from that part of the Carnatic, he returned to Madras, and in 1753 embarked for England.

The fame of Captain Clive had arrived before him, and the East-India company, in consequence, complimented him with a rich sword (after his declining it till Colonel Lawrence should receive one), and solicited him to become governor of Madras. They procured him, at the same time, the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the army, and the conduct of three companies of artillery, and three or four hundred of the king's troops. With these he was to join the Mahratta force in the west of Hindostan, and, in conjunction with them, to attack the French, whose power had become formidable. Peace however had, before his arrival (in 1756), superseded his commission. In the ensuing winter he embarked with a body of troops on board Admiral Watson's squadron, for the purposes which we have described in the latter part of the section, and which detracted nothing from his career of success. During this expedition a dispute arose respecting priority between the two commanders, in which Colonel Clive supported his own dignity with his wonted spirit and pertinacity.

The battle of Plassey succeeded this expedition, to which he owed his immortality: the nabob was depose

posed, killed, and a Meer Jaffier raised to his throne; with such an arrangement as left him completely in the power of the company. Peace was settled, 660,000l. were granted to the soldiers and seamen, and compensation made by the new power of Muxadabad to the company for the losses they had sustained by the war, as well as to all parties injured by the previous capture of Calcutta. To Colonel Clive Meer Jaffier made a present of 210,000l. and prevailed on the Great Mogul to create him an omrah, or noble of the empire, with a revenue of 28,000l. per annum of quit rents, paid by the company for lands in the neighbourhood of Calcutta.

To the vigorous efforts of Colonel Clive, in his military career, the company, doubtless, owe the origin of that grandeur to which they afterwards arrived. Though connected also with a commercial character, it was not his sphere, and it is to others that the meed of praise is due for commercial regulation.

In 1760, Colonel Clive returned to England, where his exploits received the warmest commendation of the East-India company. In the following year he received the dignity of baron in the kingdom of Ireland, by the title of Lord Clive, Baron Plassey, and was elected to serve in parliament for the borough of Shrewsbury.

He now hoped to enjoy in peace the benefit of that inordinate wealth which had been heaped upon him. In this, however, he was disappointed, though, as he yet remained but young, perhaps not disagreeably, from a request of the company to visit their Asiatic territories once more, to adjust a violation of those regulations which he had established, by the servants of the company since his absence. He, therefore, embarked in the latter end of 1764, with four of his friends, and found

found the country in a state of the utmost confusion. They made such amendments in the condition of the company's interests as seemed best suited to perpetuate the flourishing state of their concerns, and returned to England in 1767. In two years after he was rewarded with the order of the Bath; and, about the same time, contributed 70,000l. for a fund for the invalid servants of the company.

Whoever contemplates, says a cotemporary writer, the forlorn situation of the company at the time when Lord Clive first arrived at Calcutta in the year 1756, and then considers the degree of opulence and power they possessed when he finally left that place in the year 1767, will be convinced that the history of the world has seldom afforded an instance of so rapid and improbable a change. At the first period they were merely an association of merchants struggling for assistance: one of their factories were in ruins, their agents were murdered, and an army of 50,000 men, to which they had nothing to oppose, threatened the immediate destruction of their principal settlement. At the last period, distant from the first but ten years, they were become powerful princes, possessed of vast revenues, and ruling over fifteen millions of people.

Lord Clive's situation might be now considered as truly enviable, in the possession of immense wealth, and rich in the plaudits of his country; but, alas! these will not purchase the tranquillity of the mind: and this great and fortunate nobleman was to experience a fate described with much truth and sensibility by his friend, Mr. Hastings:

"To ripen'd age Clive liv'd renown'd
With lacks enrich'd, with honors crown'd,

His valour's well-earn'd meed:
Too long, alas! he liv'd to hate
His envied lot, and died too late
From life's oppression freed."

Hor. B. ii. Od. 16.

On the principle that all acquisitions made under the influence of a military force, or by treaty with foreign powers, do of right belong to the state, a motion was made in the house of commons on February 21, 1773, that in the acquisition of his wealth, Lord Clive had abused the powers with which he was intrusted. He defended himself, if not satisfactorily, at least with great ability, and concluded with these remarks: "If the resolution proposed should receive the assent of the house, I shall have nothing left that I can call my own, except my paternal fortune of 500l. a year, and which has been in the family for ages past. But upon this I am content to live, and perhaps I shall find more real content of mind and happiness than in the trembling affluence of an unsettled fortune. But to be called, after 16 years have elapsed, to account for my conduct in this manner, and after an uninterrupted enjoyment of my property, to be questioned, and considered as having obtained it unwarrantably, is hard, indeed! and a treatment of which I shall not think the British senate capable. Yet, if this should be the case, I have a conscious innocence within me, that tells me my conduct is irreproachable. *Frangas non flectes* (they may break, but not bend me)—they may take from me what I have, they may, as they think, make me poor, but I will be happy. Before I sit down, I have one request to make to the house, that when they come to decide upon my honor, they will not forget their own." The house of commons

mons rejected the motion, and resolved, "That Lord Clive had rendered great and meritorious services to his country."

At the very moment when Lord Clive was defying the senate to "bend" him, he was sinking beneath the weight of an oppressed mind. He found nothing consolatory in present immense wealth, and nothing pleasing to which he could recur in his great career. The very peasant who retired from the labors of the field, to a poverty-stricken cottage, found a truer repose than he; the man who had dethroned the monarchs of the east, and had set up others at his will, felt a reverse more poignant than the deepest adversity in the humiliating enquiry of the commons, and the opinions of him which it, as well as the subsequent troubles in India, excited in the country, without any solace to counterbalance it. His constitution has already been stated as much impaired, and his spirits grew more and more depressed. In one of the paroxysms of a nervous fever which grew on him in 1774, his lordship put a period to his existence in the fiftieth year of his age. He was interred, with a fond regard to the parish in which he was born, in the church of Moretonsay, near Market Drayton, in Shropshire.

THE

GERMAN, OR SEVEN YEARS' WAR.

(Including the Affair of Quebec, in North America.)

1756 *to* 1763.

Progress of Military Science—Cause of the War, &c.—Battle of Lowositz—of Reichenberg—of Auwal—Siege of Prague—Battle of Kolin—of Hastenbech—Norkitten, or Gros Jegerndorff—of Rosbach—of Breslau—of Lissa—Siege of Breslau—of Olmutz—Battle of Crevelt—of Sandershahsen—of Meer—Siege of Custiens—Battle of Zorndorff—of Huchkerken—Account of Marshal KEITH—Battle of Bergen—of Zullichau—of Minden—of Cunnersdorff—of Abraham—Account of General WOLF—Battle of Pretsch—of Maxen—of Fulda—Siege of Quebec—Battle of Landshut, or Cabach—of Emsdorff—of Warburg—of Strekla—of Leignitz—of Torgau—Account of FREDERIC the Great—Accession of GEORGE III.—Battle of Lanzensaltze—of Kirkdencken, or Vellinghausen—Account of the Marquis of Granby—Battle of Schweidnitz—of Dobeln—of Fulda—of Friedburg.

THE war which we have comprised in the present section, may be considered as a school of military knowledge, as well as a martial narrative, admitting all the varieties of any age or country. Military science, partaking of the progress which civilization had made towards the middle of the last century, presents a picture of war very different from those which preceded the days

days of Marlborough; and a monarch arose at the commencement of the present period, to whose theory and practice the art is indebted for nothing less than a new system of tactics, and a proof of their certain success. This was Frederic the Great, to whom the armies of Europe long turned their eyes as the general father of that science, without which neither bravery nor talents can hope to succeed in war.

In a political view, this seven years' war in Germany may be considered as an extension of that which has closed the preceding section, connected by the hostilities in the East and West Indies. The French, unable at all times to cope with the marine of Britain, threatened to revenge on the possessions of its monarch in Germany the loss they might sustain by sea. Preparations were accordingly made by a nation ever prompt in every quarter, alliances were formed, and subsidies engaged; circumstances not to be effected without the knowledge of powers only waiting for a cause of hostility. The consequence is evident, and the only object which remained, was the modification of the war as regarded the interests and relations of the various governments concerned. These were variously managed for a time, as different difficulties presented themselves, and ended at last in Great Britain and Prussia being opposed to the rest of Europe.

As it is not our intention to interrupt the series of actions, all tending to one point, and bounded by one scene, which compose this part of our work, except by gratifying curiosity in respect to the great and excellent characters which display themselves in conspicuous periods of their career. We shall mention here, that after the battle of Torgau, (which many coincident circum-

stances, particularly the naval exertions at that period, tended to render highly advantageous to the British cause), and before the battle of Lanzensaltze, died George the Second, in the 77th year of his age, and 34th of his reign. He was succeeded by his grandson, George the Third, of whom the highest eulogy that can be pronounced, either regarding the immediate politics of his time, or the sentiments of an English monarch of any period is, that "born and educated in this country, he gloried in the name of Briton!" On his majesty's ascension to the throne, he bore the best passport to the hearts of his subjects, in an amiable disposition and unblemished manners. How well these have been preserved need not to be here recorded.

THE BATTLE OF LOWOSITZ.

It being observed by all Europe, in the summer of the year 1756, that Germany was on the eve of a war, the king of Great Britain dreading the French would enter Hanover, concluded a subsidy treaty with the Czarina of Russia, whereby that princess promised to furnish 40,000 foot and 15,000 horse, in case his electorate of Hanover should be attacked.

The king of Prussia, disinclined that the Russians should be such near neighbours to him, offered to take Hanover under his protection, and by a treaty at that time made, the two monarchs, in conjunction with other of the Germanic powers, agreed to keep all foreign troops out of Germany. The courts of Dresden, Vienna, Versailles, and Petersburg, having long whispered a confederacy, now openly espoused it, and determined to strip the king of Prussia of all his dominions.

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That monarch saw the storm, and wisely resolved on laying the scene as far from home as possible. Before they were ready to invade his country, he on a sudden entered Saxony, (the 29th of August, 1756), demanded a passage into Bohemia, and seemed to threaten to besiege Dresden. The king of Poland, who had assembled his Saxons near his capital, in consequence of directions from the court of Vienna, was struck with terror and amazement at his tremendous appearance, and neither offered to repel the invader, nor come to terms, but began to fortify himself among the vallies and mountains of Pirna. Frederic knew no time was to be lost; he took possession of the defiles of Bohemia, and entered that kingdom at the head of his army, having sent some detachments before to scour the country of the enemy's parties. He also left a detachment behind to block the Saxons up in their camp at Pirna, which was no sooner made known to Mareschal Brown, the commander of the Austrian army, than he determined on their relief, which the king of Prussia was presently apprized of, and therefore resolved to bring him to a battle. The king marched with rapidity to where the Austrians lay encamped. On the 29th day of September, his advanced guard was in sight of the camp. The army arrived in the night at Welmina, where the king only formed his battalions behind one another, and the squadrons in the same manner, which remained the whole night in this place, the king himself sitting up with them, covered with his cloak only, before a little fire, at the head of his troops. On the 1st of October, he shewed the generals the ground he intended to occupy; the infantry to form the first line, and to occupy the two hills, the bottom lying between them; some battalions

talions to form the second line, and the third line to be composed of all the cavalry. From the hills the Prussians first perceived the town of Lowositz, filled with a numerous body of infantry, a large battery of twelve pieces of cannon raised before them, the cavalry formed chequerwise, and in a line between Lowositz and Sauschitz. With a view to drive back the enemy, which stood in his front, he ordered his cavalry to advance, forming them before his first line of infantry; the cavalry attacked and broke the enemy's infantry, but were galled by a great body of infantry, which was placed behind the cavalry, in hollow places and ditches, which obliged them to return and form again; which having done, they returned to the attack, in the face of sixty pieces of cannon, and the body of infantry, on which they defeated the Austrian cavalry, and forced the enemy from the ditches. The enemy endeavoured to flank the Prussian infantry, and dispositions were made to support them; when the whole left of the Prussian infantry marching in gradually, wheeled about, attacked the town of Lowositz in flank in spite of the cannon and musquetry, set the suburbs on fire, carried the post, and put the whole army to flight.

Mareschal Brown retired to the other side of the Egra, encamping at Baden, and the king having gained the field of battle, established his head-quarters at Lowositz. The enemy's army was 60,000 strong, and their loss was computed about 6000 or 7000 killed or wounded. The Prussians took 500 prisoners, among whom was Prince Lobkowitz, with five pieces of cannon and three pair of colours. The Prussians lost 2000 men, killed and wounded, and by this victory were become masters of all the defiles, so that the whole

whole Saxon army finding themselves surrounded, and being reduced to the greatest extremity for want of provisions, they surrendered, to a man, prisoners of war, and the king incorporated all who were willing to enter into his service with the Prussian army, which broke up the camp at Lowositz, and arrived at the quarters at Seidlitz, which ended the campaign of 1756. The king of Poland was obliged to quit his electorate; the Prussians took up their quarters in Saxony, seized upon the revenues, levied contributions, and obliged the country to furnish recruits. The king possessed himself of the archives at Dresden, from whence he took copies of the triple alliance, formed against him in time of peace, by the courts of Vienna, Versailles, and Petersburg, and which he published to all Europe.

Lowositz is a village situated on the river Egra, seven miles S. of Leitmeritz, and three N. W. of Baden, in the country of Bohemia.

The single but important battle which preceded, may be considered but as a preparatory movement for the campaign of 1757, which now commences.

BATTLE OF REICHENBERG.

His Highness the Duke of Bevern having marched, April 20, 1757, at the head of a body of the army which was in Lusatia, from the quarters of cantonment, near Zittau, possessed himself immediately, without the loss of a single man, of the first post in Bohemia, at Krottau, and Grasenstein, drove away the enemy the same day from Kratzen, and marched towards Machendorf, near Reichenberg. The same morning Putkammer's hussars, commanded by their colonel and by Major Schaenfeld.

Schaenfeld, routed some hundreds of the enemy's cuirassiers, commanded by prince Lichtenstein, who were posted before Kohlig, and took prisoners, one captain, two subalterns, and above sixty horse; the rest were entirely dispersed, and scarcely able to rally near Kratzen. The night coming on, obliged the troops to remain in the open air till the next morning.

The 21st, at break of day, our troops marched in two columns by Habendorf towards the enemy's army posted near Reichenberg, and commanded by General Count Konigseg, 20,000 strong; as soon as the lines were formed, they advanced towards the enemy's cavalry, which was ranged in three lines of about thirty squadrons. The two wings were sustained by the infantry, which was posted among felled trees and intrenchments. They immediately cannonaded the enemy's cavalry, who received it bravely, having on their right a village, and on their left a wood, where they had intrenched themselves with felled trees and pits. But the Duke of Bevern having caused fifteen squadrons of dragoons, of the second line, to advance, and ordered the wood on our right to be attacked at the same time by the battalions of grenadiers of Kablden and of Moellendorf, and by the regiment of the Prince of Prussia, who cleared all the felled trees and intrenchments there; our dragoons, who had by this means their flanks covered, entirely routed the enemy's cavalry. The generals Normann, Katt, and the Prince of Wirtemberg, signalized themselves extremely on this occasion.

Colonel Putkammer and Major Schaenfeld, with their huzzars, likewise particularly distinguished themselves by giving the horse grenadiers a very warm reception,

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notwithstanding the enemy's artillery took them in flank. Lieutenant-general Lestewitz at the same time attacked, with the left wing of the Prussian army, the redoubts that covered Reichenberg. Though there were many defiles and rising grounds to pass, which were all occupied by the enemy, yet the regiment of d'Amstadt forced the redoubt, put to flight, and pursued the enemy, after some discharges of their artillery and small arms, from one eminence to another, for the space of a mile, as far as Rochlitz and Dorssel. The loss of the enemy amounted to 1000 killed and wounded. The victors made about twenty officers and 400 soldiers prisoners, and took three standards. The action began at half an hour after six o'clock, and continued till eleven.

The conquerors lost on their side seven subalterns, and about 100 men killed; General Normann, Major de Mellin, of the regiment of Amotel, Colonel Lettow of d'Armstadt, Majors de Platen, de Normann, and Beyeun, of Wirtemberg, the Captains de Pabstein, de Normann, and de Patkammer, of Amstel, seven subalterns, and 150 men, were wounded.

The officers and private men equally deserved the highest commendations. His Highness the Duke of Bevern, who had distinguished himself in so signal a manner in former campaigns, and particularly at Lowositz, in this action gave fresh proofs of that skill and courage, which will transmit his name to posterity.

Reichenberg is a town of Saxony, in Misnie marquisate, south of Dresden.

BATTLE OF AUWAL.

When the King of Prussia entered Bohemia this year, (1757) at the head of 90,000 men, the Austrian army, though consisting of 100,000 men, fled before him. At Auwal, a village about two miles N. W. from Prague, however, Count Brown, its general, determined to make a stand and wait the arrival of the Prussians. His camp was fortified by every advantage of nature and every contrivance of art; his centre was an eminence, his left was covered by Prague, and his right by a morass. The king soon came up, and on the 6th of May, 1757, at three o'clock in the afternoon a battle began. Mareschal Schwerin, with the left of the Prussians, attacked the Austrians with amazing intrepidity, in the very front of the enemy's batteries, climbed precipices, till then thought insurmountable, and with this daring resolution charged, sword in hand, forces much superior in number to his own. He was repulsed, but not without a very obstinate resistance, which occasioned a terrible carnage. The troops were soon rallied, and he attempted to lead them on again; but they hesitating about passing the morass, and there being exposed to the enemy's batteries, he snatched the standard from the officer who bore it, and rushing foremost into the morass, cried, "Let all brave Prussians follow me!" when unfortunately he was killed by a cannon-ball. Prince Ferdinand, the king's brother, hastily took up the standard, and putting himself at the head of the troops, made another effort, but was also repulsed; and the Duke of Aremberg, who commanded this victorious wing of the Austrians, pursued him 600 paces. At this instant, the King

position. Here it was, that the hereditary prince of Brunswick distinguished himself at the head of a battalion of Wolfenbuttle guards and a Hanoverian battalion, by attacking and repulsing with his bayonets a superior force of the enemy, and retaking the battery. The enemy being in possession of a height, that commanded and flanked both our lines of infantry and our battery, which attack they could support under cover of a hill, and his Royal Highness could not dispute, without exposing his flank both to their artillery and musquetry, he ordered the army to retreat, which was done in the greatest order, and with the greatest reluctance; the common soldiers desiring to be led on, to revenge the cruel unparalleled treatment of their masters and countrymen.

His Royal Highness retreated to Hamelin, where he halted some time, and then continued his march to Lhune. The enemy did not shew themselves in any shape during the retreat of the allies.

Colonel Bradenback attacked four brigades very strongly posted, with a battery of fourteen pieces of cannon, charged the enemy with his bayonets, repulsed, and drove them down a precipice with a considerable loss; took all their artillery, ammunition, &c. but preferring the care of his wounded, to the carrying away of the cannon, he only brought off six, nailing up and destroying the rest.

Colonel Dachenhausen, on his side, drove several squadrons of the enemy as far as their army, who never gave him an opportunity of charging them. This attack was late in the day, and at such a distance, that his Royal Highness was not informed of it till some time after his retreat.

The loss of the allies was inconsiderable, in proportion to the enemy's superiority; they lost about 1000 men, killed, wounded, and taken prisoners; the enemy lost more, but they never owned how many. The numbers of both armies were very unequal; the French had at least 75,000 men, whereas the allies had not 47,000.

The Duke of Cumberland being driven off the field of battle, and Hanover no longer tenable, he retreated towards Stade. By taking this route, his Royal Highness was driven into a sort of *cul de sac*. Unable by this situation to retire, or by his strength to advance, he was compelled, on the 8th of September, to sign the remarkable capitulation of Closter-Seven, by which 38,000 Hanoverians laid down their arms, and were dispersed into different quarters of cantonment. The French army had a little before changed its commander.—D'Etrees, the favourite of all the military men, was removed from the command, which was conferred on the Duke de Richlieu, who excelled him and all mankind in the profession of a courtier. The Hanoverians were now quite subdued, and all the French force let loose by this treaty, was ready to fall in upon the King of Prussia's dominions; but he stopped their career by his victory at Rosbach.

Hastenbeck is a little village in the electorate of Hanover, situated on the east side of the Weser, near the town of Hamelin.

BATTLE

BATTLE OF NORKITTEN, or GROS JAGERSDORF.

The King of Prussia having been obliged to retreat, in consequence of his defeat at Kolin, the Russians, emboldened by the success of their allies at Hastenbeck, now ventured to invade, to the number of 90,000 men.

They invested Memel, which not being in a condition to stand a regular siege, was surrendered by the garrison upon honourable terms. From hence this numerous army marched southward, without meeting with any remarkable opposition; but so slowly, that they did not pass the Pregel till near the end of August; when they had passed that river, they encamped near Jagersdorf. Upon this, General Lehwald, who commanded the Prussian army, then posted at Wehlaw, resolved, notwithstanding their great superiority in numbers, to attack them, which he did on the 30th of that month.

The Russian army, amounting to 80,000 regular troops, had chosen a most advantageous camp, near Norkitten. It was composed of four lines, each of which was defended by an intrenchment, with a numerous artillery, and batteries placed upon all the eminences. Notwithstanding so great a superiority, Marechal Lehwald determined to attack the enemy with his army, which hardly consisted of 30,000 men. The attack began at five in the morning, and was carried on with so much vigour, that the Prussians entirely broke the whole first line of the enemy, and forced all their batteries. The Prince of Holstein Gottorp, brother to the King of Sweden, at the head of his regiment of dragoons, routed the enemy's cavalry, and afterwards fell

upon a regiment of grenadiers, which was cut to pieces; but when the Prussians came to the second intrenchment, Mareschal Lehwald, seeing he could not attempt to carry it without exposing his whole army, took the resolution to retire, which he did in the best manner, and without the enemy's daring to retire out of their intrenchments to pursue them. The Prussians returned to their former camp, at Velau, where they remained, as did the enemy in their camp. The loss of the Prussians did not exceed 2000 killed and wounded, which loss, however, was immediately replaced by the disciplined militia; the loss of the enemy was near 14,000. General Lapuchin was wounded and taken prisoner, with a colonel of the Russian artillery; but the former was sent back on his parole. The Prussian army had at first made themselves masters of above eighty pieces of cannon, but were afterwards obliged to abandon them, with eleven of their own, for want of carriages. The Prussians lost no general, or officer of distinction.—Lieutenant-general Dohna was the only one wounded.

The Russians gave a very different account of this battle; their first account, indeed, which was given by Mareschal Apraxin himself, was pretty modest and concise; for he only said, that the Prussians, though they behaved as bravely as men could do in the action, had attacked his army, contrary to all the rules of war, therefore their attack must have been either the effect of positive orders or despair; the consequence of which was, that they had, he reckoned, 10,000 men killed and wounded in their desperate attack, whereas the Russians had not above 7000 killed and wounded. But there was afterwards a long and pompous account of this engage-

gagement published at Petersburg, and to amuse the populace, great rejoicing made, as if they had obtained a complete victory.

It is, indeed, probable, that the Prussians lost a greater number of men than they were willing to confess, as an army that attacks another's intrenchments without defeating them, always loses more men than those they attack; besides, we cannot well suppose, that Mareschal Lehwald would have given up the advantages he had obtained, if he had not lost a very great number of men; and much less, that he would have retired from his former camp, as he soon after did to Peterswalde.

But what is most surprising, though the Prussian army had retired, and did not seem to have any design to make a second attack, yet the Russian army attempted nothing after this battle, unless it was plundering, and often cruelly treating the poor inhabitants; which, indeed, was chiefly owing to their being attended, as they always are, by a body of Cossacks and Calmucks; for as to any other sort of operations, they continued quite inactive, until the 13th of September, when they suddenly repassed the Pregel, and retreated without stopping till they arrived at Memel; in which retreat they lost a great many men, as they were followed almost the whole of the way by some of the Prussian troops, who killed or made prisoners all they found lagging behind the army; and even many of the stragglers were killed by the country people, in revenge for the ill-usage they had met with. What reason Mareschal Apraxin had for this early and precipitate retreat is not known, as it does not seem to have been any way necessary, because he might have made himself master of Konigsberg, and thereby had his army supplied by the Russian fleet; and

it does not seem as if he had any orders from his court for retreating, because he was soon after not only dismissed from his command, but also confined; though it does not appear that he ever met with any other punishment. Whatever was the reason, the army, presently after their arrival at Memel, retired into winter quarters, some in Samsgitia.

Norkitten is a village of Ducal Prussia, situated between Konigsberg and Gros (Great) Jagersdorf.

The King of Prussia, after his unfortunate defeat at Kolin, the 18th of June, 1757, being obliged to raise the siege of Prague, retreated into Silesia. This repulse raised the courage of his enemies. The Russians, who had lingered four months on their march, now entered Prussia. The Swedes transported 30,000 men into Pomerania, to second the operations of the Russians. The French, who had made themselves masters of Hanover, by their victory at Hastenbeck, threatened to invade Madgebourg, and the army of the empire to retake Saxony. This powerful confederacy obliged him to divide his army, and the Austrians now took advantage of this division, and invaded Silesia: so that Frederic knew not which of these armies to attack first. But imagining a defeat of the army of the empire would be most favourable to his affairs, as this army in some measure acted in conjunction with the French, he accordingly marched with surprising expedition, and gained a complete victory over it at Rosbach.

BATTLE OF ROSBACH.

This battle was, perhaps, the most illustrious of all the King of Prussia's victories, inasmuch as his situation a few weeks before was indeed the most deplorable: hemmed in on every side, he scarce knew what to do; at length Providence relieved him, and wonderfully changed the scene.

He deferred bringing on a decisive action till the winter. He suffered the army of the empire to advance to the frontiers of Misnia, and even to threaten the siege of Leipsic, before he began to act against them; he then moved towards them, leaving an army in Lusatia to observe the Austrians.

On his first motions, the enemy retired with precipitation. But when they had reinforced themselves with numbers, and courage sufficient to persuade them to advance, the King of Prussia in his turn retired. His resolution seemed to fight them as near the Misnia as possible, and as deep in the winter as he conveniently might; for if he should have the good-fortune to succeed against the imperial army, such a blow, at such a season, would effectually disable them from acting any thing to his prejudice, for that year at least; but if, on the contrary, he should fail, Saxony was at hand, in which it would prove difficult for the enemy to make any impression while the winter continued. As for the time to be lost in following this plan, and the advantage it would afford the Austrians in their design on Silesia, they were not to be compared with the advantages which the king received from it. He knew that Schweidnitz was strong and excellently provided, the

Prince of Bevern was strongly posted near to obstruct the enemy's operations; the winter would lean heavier on the besiegers; and on the whole, he had reason to trust that his troops, animated by his own presence and example, would prove far superior to the enemy in enduring all the hardships of a winter campaign.

After some time spent in various movements between the allied army of the imperialists and French on one side, and the Prussians on the other, the king resolved to give battle to his enemies, who were by this time advanced to the confines of Misnia.

On the 24th of October, 1757, the king had taken his resolution; at that time his army happened to be divided into several corps, some of them at a distance of no less than twenty leagues asunder; yet such was the spirit and excellent disposition of the Prussians, that the junction of all these corps was fully effected on the 27th, and the king advanced towards the enemy. The two armies met near the village of Rosbach, on the 5th day of November.

The united army, under the command of the Prince of Saxe Hildburghausen, and the Prince of Soubise, consisted of 50,000 men complete. But the troops of the circles were new raised, and many of them not well affected to the service, nor to their French allies. The Prussians did not amount to 25,000; but then they were all Prussians, and led on by their own well-beloved and valiant monarch. As soon as the armies were formed, and the action going to begin, which was to decide the fate of so many nations, and to determine between force and virtue, the King of Prussia addressed his troops nearly in the following words:

"My

"My dear Friends,

"The hour is come, in which all that is, and all that ought to be dear to us, depends upon the swords that are now drawn for the battle. Time permits me to say but little, nor is there occasion to say much. You know that there is no labour, no hunger, no cold, no watching, no danger, that I have not shared with you hitherto; and you now see me ready to lay down my life with you, and for you. All I ask is the same pledge of fidelity and affection that I give. And let me add, not as an incitement to your courage, but as a testimony of my own gratitude, that, from this hour, till the time you go into winter-quarters, your pay shall be double. Acquit yourselves like men, and put your confidence in God."

The effect of this speech was such as cannot be described. The general emotion burst into an universal shout, and the looks and demeanour of the men were animated to a sort of heroic phrenzy. In this disposition, which promised good success, the engagement began.

In the beginning of the action, the French cavalry came on with great spirit, but they were repulsed; some regiments having gained an eminence, defended themselves bravely, but in the end they were totally routed. The infantry, both French and imperialists, made but a faint resistance. The King of Prussia in person, exposed to the hottest fire, led on his troops; the enemy gave way in every part; they were seized with a panic, and fled in the utmost disorder. They left 3000 men dead on the field of battle, sixty-three pieces of cannon, and many colours. Eight French generals, 250 officers of different ranks, and 6000 men were taken. Night alone saved from total destruction the scattered remains

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of an army, that in the morning was so numerous and so formidable.

The glorious success of the battle of Rosbach was such as hardly wanted to be improved, the enemy being left totally incapable of action. The king was set free on that side; but it was a freedom which gave him no respite to his labours; it only gave him an opportunity of undergoing new labours in another part.

Rosbach is situated on the west side of the river Sala, in Upper Saxony, eight miles N. W. from Wiessenfel, and near ten S. from Halle.

BATTLE OF BRESLAU.

The cares of the king of Prussia thickened in proportion to his victories. During his majesty's absence from Silesia, the Austrians resolved to carry all before them in that country. Prince Charles of Lotrain, the marechals Daun and Nadasti, commanders of the Austrian army, penetrated as far as Breslau, under the cannon of which the prince of Bevern, with 30,000 Prussians, lay intrenched.

These generals finding, before they could take the city, that the intrenchments must be forced, they made the necessary dispositions for that purpose; mareschal Daun placed himself on the right, prince Charles commanded in the centre, and mareschal Nadasti on the left. Thus did the Austrian army, consisting of 100,000 men, on the 21st of November 1757, march up to the intrenchments. Next day, at day-light, they began to cannonade them from forty twenty-four pounders, and near 100 lesser pieces, which continued a few hours, when the small arms began the fire, which was smarter than any of the officers in either army had ever seen before.

fore. The Austrians seemed irresistible, and the Prussians inaccessible. Both sides fought with great animosity, which contributed greatly to the carnage. The Austrians at length, with incredible labour and fatigue, though wholly exposed to a numerous artillery, well served, and a prodigious fire of musquetry, cleared the redoubts, defiles, and morasses, notwithstanding the bravest opposition made by the Prussians. In a few minutes, however, they were obliged to give ground, and evacuate the possessions they had made, owing to the heavy fire of the Prussians, which they could not withstand, and whose balls fell among them like hail.

Mareschal Nadasti, on whom the whole dependance of a victory lay, made several attempts to carry the flanks, entered the intrenchments sword in hand; but his bravest efforts were every time repulsed, and the Prussian's grape-shot mowed down his infantry in lines. His troops were at length so incommoded with the dead and wounded under foot, they could not observe the regularity of order. Finding his task impracticable, he began to draw off his men and retreat from the field of battle; when, all at once, unexpectedly and unaccountably, the Prussian general took the same resolution. Part of their army had suffered greatly in the engagement, and they became apprehensive of a total defeat, in case their intrenchments should be forced in any part. They put a garrison into Breslau, and retired behind the Oder. The Austrians returning, with astonishment saw themselves masters of the field they had just been obliged to relinquish.

In this action the Austrians lost about 26,000 men, a number that almost equalled the whole Prussian army, which is said to have lost only 4000, including 1600 prisoners.

prisoners. It may indeed be observed, this victory, with which the Austrians were at first so greatly elated, was one of those bloody actions in which victory does not compensate for the loss. Count Kaunitz did not hesitate to say, as soon as he received the account of it, that such another victory would ruin the whole Austrian army. Nor will it be difficult to be believed, when it is remembered that the heat of the action lasted seven hours, and that there were four intrenchments to be forced, that were deemed inaccessible according to the rules of war.

The immediate consequence of this battle was the surrender of Breslau, which capitulated the following day, on condition that the garrison should not serve against the empress, nor her allies, for twelve months. But a more unfortunate stroke happened to the Prussians, which gave rise to many conjectures. On the morning of the 23d of November, the prince of Bevern going to reconnoitre without escort, and attended only by a groom, fell in with an advanced party of croats, a small body of whom had crossed the Oder; they took him prisoner, and he was conducted to Vienna, from whence he purchased his liberty, after a short residence, and the king of Prussia, on his arrival at Berlin, made him governor of Stetin.

The Austrians likewise met with an accident, by which they lost one of their best generals. The mareschal Nadasti, not having succeeded in the enterprise assigned him, the court of Vienna, by a misrepresentation of his conduct by mareschal Daun, his avowed enemy, thought fit to dismiss him from the service; but it does not seem from any printed account of this action, that he was the least culpable in his conduct, which, during

ing the whole campaign, had contributed greatly to the glory of the Austrian arms. The king of France made several solicitations to the empress that he might be reinstated in his military employments; but mareschal Daun's interest being all-prevalent, there was no attention paid to them. The count Nadasti afterwards led a secluded life.

BATTLE OF LISSA, or LEUTHEN.

The king of Prussia, as before observed, being absent, and the defeated army having lost its commander, his presence now became indispensably necessary, to oppose the progress of the enemy in Silesia. He received advice of the unfortunate battle, and immediately began his march with surprising rapidity, which he continued nine days successively, without halting. When he effected the junction of his forces, he found the whole did not amount to 50,000 men, whereas the Austrian army which had been greatly reinforced, was now augmented to 110,000, according to their own accounts. As he approached Breslau, the Austrians confiding in their superiority, abandoned their strong camp (the same which the prince of Bevern had occupied) and advanced to meet him, but encamped near the village of Leuthen, about two miles from Breslau. The ground was advantageous, and improved to the utmost, by the diligence and skill of count Daun, who remembering that he was the only general that had carried the honours of the field from the king of Prussia, knew how difficult it was to obtain a victory; he possessed himself of all the eminences, and secured them with artillery; to the right and left he erected batteries, which might flank the approach of the Prussians. The ground in

front was rendered almost impassable by felled trees, which were promiscuously laid with their knots and boughs upwards.

At day-break on the 5th of December, 1757, the king going to reconnoitre, perceived a large corps of the enemy posted on a rising ground, which he took for the whole Austrian army; but it not being light enough to exactly distinguish them, he did not choose to advance alone, dreading a misfortune like the prince of Bevern's, therefore he divided his army into two columns, and with the vanguard drew near to the enemy, when he discovered that the troops which occupied the rising ground, consisted only of four regiments of Saxon light horse, commanded by lieutenant-general count Nostitz, he immediately attacked them with his huzzars; and after killing about 300 of them, routed the rest. He continued to advance with his column under favour of a fog, which happened to be very thick, and, undiscovered, reached the enemy's batteries before they knew of his approach, and took possession of them after an obstinate resistance of about forty minutes. For this advantage he owed more to the assistance of the sword than the musquet, as he had given strict orders against firing, that the Austrian generals might not know he was so near them. Meanwhile the other column cleared away the felled trees which obstructed its forming, and both being executed at nearly the same time, the whole army presented itself to prince Charles's front. Nothing could equal the surprise of the prince; he was thrown into confusion with the bare appearance of the Prussian monarch, an object which he at that time so little expected. Mareschal Daun was in the same dilemma. They were astonished how the king had

had passed their batteries, which they had never heard to fire. However, there was no time to hesitate. The Prussian infantry were preparing to charge, and the Austrians were constrained to fight in a disposition they did not like.

The king began to attack with his usual resolution, and at the second fire obliged prince Charles to give ground, who rallied, and obliged him to do the same in his turn, but the prince was so eager to pursue, that he left an interval in his motion to advance, which the Prussian general, Seidlitz, observing, he instantly, with a body of cavalry, threw himself into it, and caused great confusion, as well as a terrible carnage in the Austrian army. The king was some time in doubt what could occasion so great a tumult in the heart of the enemy, not knowing that Seidlitz was there, till he received an aid-de-camp from that general, desiring a reinforcement, with which he said he would drive the Austrian army off the field of battle.

The king, elated with an affair so much to his advantage, immediately made a vigorous effort with the whole front of his army, charging with such fury and intrepidity, that it was impossible to stand the shock. The enemy fell into disorder, and Seidlitz was immediately relieved; mean time a detachment of the enemy's cavalry attempted some diversion on the right flank of the Prussians, but were so gallantly received, that few escaped, being either cut to pieces or taken prisoners. The king pressing very hard, the enemy had not time to rally; but to remedy this evil, they immediately presented a new front, by means of their prodigious numbers, suffering the broken regiments to leave the field of battle by the best way they could. This was handled

in the same manner, and two more; then the whole Austrian army began to give way and retire in succession to Leuthen, which was defended on all sides by intrenchments and redoubts. Here they rallied, and the action was renewed, and continued with a brave opposition on both sides, a full hour: at length the Prussians, after many reiterated attacks, obliged the enemy to abandon this post with great precipitation; and two battalions of the Prussian guards, in attacking their rear, seemed to cause more confusion than the whole army had done before. The huzzars and other light cavalry, detached in pursuit of the enemy, slew a great number, and made some thousands prisoners. The king pursued as far as Lissa, and halted, choosing to give his victorious army some rest, and he there passed the night.

This action began at two o'clock, and lasted till dark. The killed of the Austrians amounted to more than 12,000 men, and their wounded was near twice that number. Twenty-one thousand five hundred were made prisoners; 241 pieces of cannon, sixty pairs of colours and standards, and 300 baggage waggons, laden, were taken.

Next day a cornet of the regiment of *Zietten*, with only ten men, took 100 Austrians in their flight, whom he conducted to the head-quarters. For this exploit, he received the *Order of Merit* from the king, and was immediately created a captain.

The confusion and destruction of the Austrian army was so great, that we do not remember to have seen its parallel in history. The roads, from Silesia to Bohemia, were almost rendered impassable, by the number of carriages, some of which were broken, others, for want of horses,

horses, abandoned, and the baggage of every sort that lay in heaps, wherever the fugitives had taken their flight. Almost the whole army was without officers.—The private men knew not who had the command, nor where the head-quarters were: they ran desolate and dejected, without arms or baggage to Schweidnitz, where Mareschal Daun, taking the entire command upon himself, conducted them in the best manner he could into Bohemia.

After the defeat of the Austrian army, Prince Charles threw a garrison of 12,000 men into Breslau, under the command of Lieutenant-generals Stahrenberg and Beck; then he provided for his own safety, without troubling his head about the rest of the army, and took the nearest road to Vienna, where they were making great preparations for celebrating the victory gained over the Prince of Bevern; but this unfortunate stroke put a stop to their further proceedings.

A few days after the action, one of the Prussian detachments took a messenger, carrying some dispatches from Mareschal Daun to Vienna. The officers brought the courier to the king, who, in examining the contents of the dispatches, found a very affecting letter addressed to the empress, imploring her to send immediate succours to the army, for it was almost totally ruined. The unavoidable accidents of war had reduced it to 30,000 men, who were in a most miserable condition, in want of cloathing, provision, shoes, &c. This little billet did not fail to kindle in his breast the two contrasted passions, of pity and triumph. He felt for the unhappy sufferers, but had reason to rejoice that victory was attended with so great an overthrow. He wrote at the bottom of it:

"All this I know to be true,

"FREDERIC."

The people of England were greatly elated by this success of the King of Prussia, who became more and more their darling; they looked upon every victory he gained, as a battle fought for them. The newspapers were filled with panegyrics, and all popular esteem seemed to centre in him.

SIEGE OF BRESLAU.

In a few days after the King of Prussia's victory at Lissa, he prepared to besiege Breslau. Finding the garrison was determined to defend it, he opened his trenches before it as soon as possible, and began a furious bombardment. The ardour of the Prussian soldiers is hardly credible; it was with difficulty their officers could prevent their scaling the walls, and taking the town by assault, notwithstanding the great fatigue they had undergone, and the severity of the season. The siege continued from the 14th of December till the 29th, when one of the bastions being greatly damaged by a magazine of powder blowing up near it, the garrison surrendered prisoners of war, to the amount of 13,000 men, 10,000 of whom were fit to bear arms, the rest were sick and wounded. The Prussians in their approaches did not lose 30 men; whereas the Austrians had above 100 killed. This is something surprising, as we find in most sieges, the besiegers lose more men than the besieged.

Thus did the King of Prussia drive the Austrians out of Silesia, whose troops but a few days before had the entire possession of it. This sudden turn of fortune amazed

amazed all Europe, and might well occasion the Paris gazette to cry out—"Now vanquished, now victorious!" The numbers of men the Austrians are said to have lost, from the time of their entering Silesia to their departure, amounted at least to 80,000.

When he entered the city of Breslau, he gave orders for taking into custody several persons whom he suspected of infidelity, particularly the canons of the cathedral: the bishop, l'Abbe Prade, had a guard set over his palace, but he found means to make his escape. There was never any authentic account of what became of him afterwards; but there is some probability that he led a monastic life in the purlieus of Rome; for it is certain he was seen at the Holy See a short time after his departure from Breslau.

So, gloriously, ended the campaign of 1757, affording an opportunity of recess to an army which had experienced an extraordinary diversity of fortune.—That this time was not neglected, will be seen in the ensuing years.

SIEGE OF OLMUTZ.

At the beginning of the next campaign, early in the year 1758, the King of Prussia resolved to make Moravia the seat of war. Moravia was fresh ground, a country as yet untouched by the ravages of war. If he succeeded in his operations in this country, his successes must prove more decisive than they could any where else. If he should fail, the Austrians were at a distance from the centre of his affairs, and would find it difficult to improve their advantages to his ruin. After the reduction of Schweidnitz, (which he had retaken on

the 16th of April, 1758, in sight of the imperial grand army, when the garrison, consisting of 7000 men, surrendered prisoners of war) the king ordered two bodies of his troops to post themselves in such a manner, as to make it appear that he intended to carry the war into Bohemia. Whilst he drew away the enemy's attention from his real object by these dispositions, the main of his army, by a very rapid march, entered into Moravia in two columns, and made themselves masters, in a short time, and with little or no opposition, of all the posts necessary in the siege of Olmutz, which is the capital of Moravia, situated on the river Moravia, about seventy-five miles north from Vienna; and on the 27th of May, the trenches were opened before that city.

Mareschal Daun was no sooner apprized of the king's march towards Moravia, than he took his route through Bohemia to that province. Notwithstanding, that the empress queen omitted no possible endeavours to assemble a just army, against the King of Prussia, though she had for that purpose exhausted the Milanese and Tuscany, and swept up the last recruits in her Danubian territories, M. Daun was not yet in a condition to give the King of Prussia battle; neither did his character lead him to trust that to fortune, which he might ensure, though more slowly, by conduct. This wise general took his posts from Gewies to Mittau, in a mountainous country, in a situation where it was impossible to attack him. He had the fertile country of Bohemia, from whence he readily and certainly drew supplies, in his rear. He was from his position, at the same time enabled to harass the Prussian army before Olmutz, and to intercept the convoys which were brought to them from Silesia.

Olmutz,

Olmutz, by the extent of its works, and other advantageous circumstances, is a city which it is very difficult to invest; so that some of the king's posts, being necessarily weakened by occupying so great an extent of country, were attacked by M. Daun's detachments from time to time, with such success, that abundant succours, both of men and ammunition, were thrown into the place. These attacks were always made by night, and very few nights passed without some attack. The success was various. But the operations of the siege were greatly disturbed by these continual alarms. Besides, it is said, that the Austrians, before the king's invasion of this province, had destroyed all the forage in the neighbourhood of Olmutz. The horse were obliged to forage at a great distance, which harassed them extremely. M. Daun took advantage of all these circumstances. It was in vain, that the King of Prussia endeavoured, by all the arts of a great commander, to provoke or entice him to an engagement. He profited of the advantages he had made, without being tempted by them to throw out of his hands the secure game he was playing.

The great object of M. Daun was the Prussian convoys. On receiving advice, that a large and important one was to leave Troppau on the 25th of June, he took measures to intercept it. He ordered General Jahnus, who was at Muglitz, on the left, to advance towards Bahrn, and a detachment, which was at Prerau, at a considerable distance to the right, to march to Stadt-Leibe, so that those two corps should on different sides attack the convoy at one and the same time. To further the execution of this project, M. Daun himself approached the Prussian army, and directed all his motions, as if he intended

intended to give him battle. However, the king was too great master in the game of generalship which was now playing, to be deceived by this feint. He detached a considerable party under General Zietten to support his convoy, which was already about 7000 strong. Before this detachment could come up, the convoy was attacked, and the Austrians were repulsed. But M. Daun, who provided for every thing, quickly reinforced his parties, who renewed the engagement the next day. They first suffered the head of the convoy to go unmolested; but as the centre was still embarrassed in a dangerous defile, they easily cut off the head from the rest, and then they attacked the centre with the greatest fury. The Prussians made as good a resistance as the nature of the ground would suffer. General Zietten did every thing that could be expected from an accomplished officer; but in the end they were entirely routed; all the waggons in that division were taken; the rear was pushed back towards Troppau; the head alone, with great difficulty, arrived at the Prussian army.

This was a fatal stroke, because it came at a time when it was impossible to repair it. The siege of Olmutz had been all along attended with great difficulties; and now the news which every day arrived, of the nearer and nearer approach of the Russians, called the king loudly to the defence of his own dominions. Already the Cossacks and Calmucks made incursion into Silesia, and by their ravages and cruelties announced the approach of the great army. The siege must be raised; Moravia must be abandoned; M. Daun must have the honour of freeing his country, and driving away such an adversary as the King of Prussia, from a conquest

quest deemed certain: all was performed without a battle, by a series of the most refined and vigorous manœuvres that ever were put into practice.

When the King of Prussia saw that the unprosperous situation of his affairs obliged him to retreat, he took a resolution, such as a victory inspires in others. He took advantage even of the excellent movement of M. Daun, by which that able general had advanced his quarters to Palnitz, and placed himself so as to support Olmutz in the most effectual manner: by this movement, however, he was obliged to uncover the frontiers of Bohemia.—The King of Prussia, whom nothing could escape, was sensible of this advantage, and, therefore, instead of falling back upon Silesia, which step would have immediately drawn the Austrian army into his dominions, he determined to retreat from one part of the enemy's territories to another.

The day before the siege was raised, the firing of the Prussians continued as brisk as ever, and shewed no sort of sign of an intention to depart; but in the night, (July 1,) the whole army took the road to Bohemia in two columns, and gained an entire march upon the Austrians. So that, notwithstanding the utmost efforts which the enemy could make to overtake and harass the king upon his march, he advanced into Bohemia with little molestation, seized upon a large magazine at Leutomissel, defeated some corps of Austrians, who had attempted to disturb him in his progress, and arrived at Konigsgratz, one of the most important posts in Bohemia, with all his sick and wounded, with all his heavy baggage, all his heavy artillery, and military stores complete. This place he possessed, after driving from it a body of 7000 Austrians, who were intrenched there. He

in

immediately laid this city and several other districts, under contribution; but his plan not admitting any further operations on that side, he took no other advantage from this momentous post. He soon re-entered Silesia, and marched with the most amazing diligence to encounter the Russians, who had by this time united their divided corps, under Brown and Ferma, and fixed the long fluctuating plan of their operations, by entering the New Marche of Brandenburg, and laying siege to Custein. The reduction of this place could leave them but a few days march to Berlin. Count Dohna was not in a situation to oppose their progress; the king was still at a great distance. So that, on the whole, it is difficult to say, which gained the greatest glory; the King of Prussia by his retreat, or M. Dann by the measures which obliged him to it.

BATTLE OF CREVELT.

We must again leave the great monarch, who forms the leading star of this history, for a while, to attend to the Hanoverians, who having resumed their arms on the consequences of the battle at Rosbach, under the command of Ferdinand, Duke of Brunswick Wolfenbuttle, drove the French out of Hanover, and obliged them to repass the Rhine, over which the allies pursued them. It was evident, that whilst the French continued only to retire, it would prove impossible for them to hinder the allies from executing the plan they proposed, therefore thought it advisable to change their countenance. They had fallen back as far as Nuys; they now returned on their steps, and advanced as far as Crevelt, within a few miles of Prince Ferdinand's camp.

The

The prince made the dispositions for a battle, with his usual vigour and prudence. He carefully reconnoitred the situation of the enemy, the 23d day of June, 1758, which proved the day of action. He found that their right was at a village, called Vischelon; their left extended towards Anrath, where it was covered with a wood; Crevelt, which was in the front of their right, was occupied by a party of their troops. His highness resolved upon three attacks; the first and real attack was on the flank of the enemy's left wing; the other two were designed to divert their attention, and prevent their succouring the object of this principal attack; for which purpose, he recommended to his generals to make the best use of their heavy artillery, and not to advance too near, unless they were perfectly assured of the success of the main operation. Having made these wise dispositions, and perfectly learned the best routes by which the enemy might be approached, his highness put himself at the head of the grenadiers of his right wing, and advanced on the side of Anrath in two columns. A cannonading, violent and well supported, opened the action. The Hanoverian artillery was greatly superior to that of the French; but though the French lost many men, they lost no ground in this way, and their position in the wood made a close attack absolutely necessary. The hereditary prince of Brunswick put himself at the head of the first line of foot, and with his usual spirit, advanced with his whole front directly to the wood, where a furious fire of small arms commenced, which continued without the smallest intermission for two hours and a half. All the Hanoverian battalions threw themselves into the wood. Two ditches, well lined with infantry, were exposed to their fury. They

were forced one after another. The enemy's battalions were pushed back, they were entirely broken, and fled out of the wood in a disorder which was irreparable. Their cavalry, (who kept the best countenance possible, in spite of the terrible fire of the Hanoverian artillery, and in spite of the vigorous attempts of the Hanoverian horse) had by this time found means to gain the plain, covered the retreat of their scattered infantry, and saved them from ruin. The right wing and the centre of the enemy, though they suffered grievously by the cannonading, were no where broken, but retreated towards Nuys in the most perfect order. Seven thousand of their best troops were killed, wounded, and taken prisoners. But there was nothing in this battle so grievous to France, and so affecting even to the enemy, as the fate of the Count de Gisors. This young nobleman, the son of the Duke de Belleisle, not above twenty-five years of age, newly married to the heiress of an illustrious house, himself the last of a most noble family, was mortally wounded at the head of his regiment, which he brought up with the most heroic courage, and inspired by his example to make most incredible efforts. He had been educated with all the care an excellent father could bestow on a son of an uncommon genius, who was alone able to support the reputation of his family: to the purest morals he had united the politest manners: he had made a great proficiency in learning; he knew many branches of it, and loved all: he had seen every part of Europe, and read courts and nations with a discerning eye, and wanted nothing to fulfil all hope, and to make him a perfect and lasting ornament and support to his country, but a knowledge in the military art. He entered that course of glory and danger, and fell in his

his first campaign. The unhappy father and minister saw his private misfortunes keep pace with the public calamities, and the tears of his family mingled with those of his country. Prince Ferdinand gained a victory at Crevelt, which did the greatest honour to his military capacity, and to the bravery of his troops. But it was a victory, neither entire nor decisive. The French army on their own frontiers, was quickly and strongly reinforced, so that they were not only in a condition in some sort to make head against the allies, but were enabled to detach a considerable re-inforcement to the army of the Prince de Soubire on the side of the Rhine.

Crevelt is a small town of Germany, in the circle of Westphalia, and in the archbishopric of Cologne, about 25 miles S. from Wesel, 15 N. W. from Dusseldorp, and W. of the Rhine about five.

THE BATTLE OF SANDERHAUSEN.

Although Prince Ferdinand gained the advantage we have seen over the French at Crevelt, the consequences show, that the French reaped more solid benefit from this, which did not make so much noise in the world. Prince Ferdinand, after his victory at Crevelt, was for transferring the seat of war into Brabant, which, if he could not have affected, would have had no small influence over the affairs of Germany. This design could not escape the French, and they could not push their arms, or, at least, make a powerful stand and effort towards Hesse and Hanover. They must have felt severely the fatal consequences of Prince Ferdinand's passing the Rhine, and co-operating with the British arms on the coast of France. Therefore, their principal effort

was to be made on our weakest part. Instead of enabling M. Contades, with the addition of Prince Soubire's army, to force the army of the allies, and to drive them back beyond the Rhine, and thereby risking the doubtful chance of a battle that might expose their own country to certain ruin. The French ministry, whose affairs were now guided by the experienced Duc De Belleisle, reinforced the army of M. Contades, with draughts from the militia, so as to maintain his ground, but not to come to an engagement, and directed the Prince Soubire to open a way, at all events, into Hesse and Hanover, where the chance of success was in their favour, and where a trifling advantage must certainly oblige Prince Ferdinand to relinquish his scheme of transferring the seat of war into France, and to employ his forces to cover the countries of the British allies.

Prince Soubire executed his orders with the utmost expedition; and though his van-guard happened to be repulsed by the Hessian militia, he accomplished his purpose by 19,000 regulars, under the command of the Duc de Broglio, himself bringing up the van with 18,000 more to attack the Hessians, who every where fled before him, and were encamped in an advantageous situation between Cassel and Munden, near the village of Sanderhausen, to the number of 7,000 regulars and irregulars, under the command of Prince Ysemburg, which was the whole strength at that time of the Langravate of Hesse, capable of making any resistance against an invader. Prince Ysemburg, conscious of his insufficient strength, and willing to gain as much time as possible, in favour of the operations by Prince Ferdinand on the Rhine, would not have waited the arrival of the French army, neither was he inclined to risk a battle,

a battle, but was resolved to march off. But his troops, particularly the militia, flushed with their late success, presumed too much upon their courage, held the enemy in too great contempt (that ridiculous error), and refused to stir without a further trial of their prowess.

Thus circumstanced, Prince Ysemburg made the best disposition he possibly could in such a situation. He drew up in order of battle, with his right at a steep declivity, or west towards the river Fulda; his left reaching to, and covered by a wood, and occupying the summit of the declivity. The advantage of the situation of this little army, on whose fate so much depended, obliged Broglio to take his measures with the greatest precaution. He first secured the defiles of Sanderhausen and Cassel with a guard of 2,500, and then drew up his army in form, his infantry in the first line, his horse and dragoons in the second, and ten pieces of cannon of the brigade of artillery before his right, to annoy the Hessian troops next the wood. Upon the approach of the French, the Hessian cavalry advanced to attack the enemy's foot.

The Duke de Broglio immediately lined a post of his foot, and through the intervals made by this movement, a part of his horse advanced, and charged the Hessian horse, but they met with so resolute a reception, that they were repulsed, and the infantry were in great danger of being broke, had not the royal Bavier regiment saluted them with a volley, that brought most of them to the ground, and so disabled the rest that they never after appeared in this action. In the mean time M. de Waldrien, major-general, and M. Diesback, made a vigorous attack on the wood, with a brigade of Swiss, and three companies of grenadiers, but were severely

treated, and obliged to fall back. The infantry of the Hessian right marched briskly up to the French left: the fire was extremely hot on both sides. The Hessians were obliged to retreat about 110 paces, they rallied under a declivity, and returning under its favour, which party covered them; they in their turn forced the enemy's left wing to give way, turned them, and endeavoured to get behind them, when the Duke de Broglio, convinced of his own danger, and the necessity there was to get the victory out of the hands of the Hessians, first brought up the Apchon dragoons, and the cavalry behind them through a very brisk fire; and then ordered three regiments of grenadiers to march up to the declivity, and to charge the enemy with their bayonets fixed, so that numbers prevailed, and the brave defenders of their country were forced to give way and fly, after an action that lasted full five hours.

The Hessians took to the woods on the banks of the Tuldon, and dispersed as well as they could; they lost in the engagement 300 men prisoners, including fifty officers, amongst whom was the Count de Caunitz, the second in command, an aid-du-camp to Prince Ysemburg, and several lieutenant-generals and majors. The number slain and wounded were about 1500, including 300 that perished in the field, endeavouring to escape, which they entered from the declivity. They lost seven pieces of cannon on the field of battle, and eight at Munden, which they abandoned. On the part of the French they had 1785 men killed, and 1392 wounded. The Duke de Broglio, his aid-du-camp and master of horse, had each a horse killed under him. It is said there were more lives sacrificed in this action than in any other with the French during the war.

By this victory the French assumed to themselves the possession of the Weser, and were in a condition to act not only in Hesse, but in Westphalia and Hanover, as they pleased, which intirely disconcerted Prince Ferdinand's plan of operations, who had now no resource but either to bring the French to battle in hopes of victory, or repass the Rhine, but he had two great obstacles yet to overcome. He was retarded in the execution of necessary plans by long and heavy rains, that broke up the roads, overflowed the banks of the river, and hindered his marching. Neither could the French be brought to an engagement. So that when he received the news of Prince Ysemburg's defeat, and was informed that his enemy was reinforcing the fortress of Guilder, and several other posts capable of obstructing his convoys, and cutting off the subsistence of his army, and also that unnecessary delays might furnish the Prince de Soubire with an opportunity to intercept the troops he expected at that juncture from England, his highness resolved to march back over the Rhine, which resolution was carried into execution on the 8th of July.

Sanderhausen is a little town in the Landgrave of Hesse, situated a few miles N. E. of Cassel.

BATTLE OF MEER.

The victory gained by Prince Ferdinand at Crevelt was more than counterbalanced by that which the Duke of Broglio gained over the Hessians at Sanderhausen, inasmuch as it opened to the French the possession of the Weser.

They might act in Westphalia as they pleased, and it was to be feared, that if they availed themselves of the advantage

advantages they had, they might be able to intercept a body of British troops which had just been landed at Empden, and were now on their march, under the Duke of Marlborough, to reinforce the allied army. Prince Ferdinand, in this situation of affairs, had no option left but an engagement with the French army, or a retreat over the Rhine. The former was not easy to compass, as the French industriously declined a battle; and it became extremely dangerous to remain long in a position with the enemy's army on his left, and the strong fortress of Gueldre on his right. In this situation his subsistence became every day more difficult. To re-pass the Rhine had its difficulties too; the roads which led to that river were rendered almost *impassable* by the heavy rains; the river itself was so swelled with them, that the bridge at Rees had been for some time useless.

These disagreeable circumstances of the allied army did not escape the penetration of M. de Chevert, one of the ablest commanders among the French. He formed a plan upon them, which, if it had succeeded, must have put the allies into the greatest perplexity. This general had some time before passed the Rhine, with an intention of making himself master of Dusseldorp, and he had prepared all things with great ability for that enterprize. The rains, unusually heavy for that season, and some other cross accidents, had frustrated his intentions. But perceiving that the same accidents which defeated his designs, proved also unfavourable to the enemy, he resolved to turn his disappointment into an advantage, and from the ruins of his first project to build another of yet greater importance. Baron Imhoff was posted to the right of the Rhine, in a strong situation

tion near Meer. He was to cover the bridge at Rees to secure a considerable magazine, and to keep open communication between the English reinforcements and the main army. The plan of M. Clevert was to dislodge Imhoff, to burn the bridge of Rees, to make himself master of the magazine, and to render the junction of the English troops with the Hanoverians impracticable. To execute this judicious scheme, he united several detachments from the garrison of Wesel, to a considerable corps, which he intended to have employed in the siege of Dusseldorp. The whole made near 12,000 men. The troops under Imhoff were but six battalions, and six squadrons, hardly 3000 in all.

When that general was apprized of the designs and and motions of the French, he saw it was in vain to expect succours from the army of Prince Ferdinand. The swell of the river had rendered all relief impossible. All his hopes were therefore in his own genius, and the bravery of his troops. He considered, that though the post he occupied was sufficiently strong, the enemy might make themselves masters of Rees, by turning his camp, and thus execute one of the principal parts of their design; he considered the great difference in attacking and being attacked; he considered the effect of an attempt altogether unexpected by the enemy. He, therefore, took the resolution of abandoning his post, and going out to meet them. Perceiving that the French were marching into difficult ground, he did not lose a moment to begin the action. (Aug. 25, 1758.) He ordered a small party which he had posted in a little coppice, to fall upon the enemy's left, which he observed to be uncovered; and appointed the fire of this party as a signal for all the rest to advance, and make the

the onset with bayonets fixed. The French thus vigorously and unexpectedly attacked, fell into confusion; their courage ill-seconded the wisdom of their general; they did not stand half an hour; they left the field of battle, eleven pieces of cannon, many prisoners, and much baggage, to the Hanoverians, who drove them under the cannon of Wesel.

This signal advantage over such a prodigious superiority, was not more gallantly obtained, than well pursued and improved. Imhoff saw that the rains had increased to such a degree, as to leave no hopes for the allied army to pass by the bridge at Rees. Having taken proper care of his magazines, he quitted his post at Meer, and being reinforced by some *parties who* passed the river in boats, he marched with the utmost diligence towards the route of the English forces, and happily effected a junction, which had hitherto been attended with so many difficulties.

Prince Ferdinand in his retreat met with no obstructions, but just what was sufficient to display more fully the gallantry of his officers and the spirit of his troops. A town called Wachtendonck was on his left, as he retreated: this place, though not fortified, is a post of much importance, and being an island surrounded by the river Niers, is extremely difficult of access. The French had thrown a body of troops into this place. The hereditary prince, the first in every active service, was employed to force it. The bridge on his approach had been drawn up; the prince seeing that if he attempted to get this bridge down, the enemy would gain time to recollect themselves, threw himself into the river; his grenadiers, animated by so gallant an example, plunged in after him, and furiously attacking the enemy

enemy with their bayonets, in a few minutes drove them from that post. This advantage, joined to that gained by General Imhoff, and the uncommon resolution which appeared in both these attacks, awed the French. They found that their troops, raw, undisciplined, and little fit for hard service, were not to be relied upon; and they feared to bring on an action, which, by being decisive against them, might draw on the most fatal consequences. So that the prince repassed the Rhine in a most excellent order, even with less trouble than he had at first passed it, and, indeed, with little molestation but what he met with from the weather.

THE SIEGE OF CUSTEIN.

On the 13th of August (1758), about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, a sudden report was spread, that a body of Russian Hussars and Cossacks appeared in the little suburb in Custein, which put the whole city in motion, and into the greatest terror, especially as it was asserted that the whole Russian army was advancing from Meserie and Kingswald by the way of Landsberg. A reinforcement was instantly dispatched to the picquet-guard in the suburb, which, by this junction, amounted to 300 men, who were soon attacked by the enemy, and the skirmish lasted from about four till seven in the evening. During the whole of the action were discovered from the ramparts and church-steeple several persons of distinction riding on English horses covered with fly-nets, who were reconnoitering the fortifications with glasses; the cannon fired several times upon them, which at last obliged them to retire with their hussars, and the picquet took possession of their former post in the

the suburb, and the reinforcement sent to their aid returned after destroying the bridge over the Oder. Immediately notice was given to Count Dohna, general of their army, near Frankfort on the Oder, who sent them next day a reinforcement of four battalions of infantry, ten squadrons of dragoons, and a full body of hussars, under the command of Lieutenant-general Schorlemmer. The hussars, with a body of dragoons, were added to the picquet in the suburb; and the new governor, or commander, Colonel Shack, arrived at the same time.

On the same day (the 14th) their small garrison consisting of one battalion of regulars, one battalion of militia, two companies of invalids, and about 100 hussars, were employed from morning till night in placing to advantage the cannons on the ramparts, and in erecting small batteries at the place of arms of the covered way and horn-work; but their old general neglected the most necessary business in not obstructing the enemy's march, which might have been easily done by felling trees in the forest through which they were to pass: this would have rendered their approach extremely difficult, and the consequence of this neglect was the advantage to the enemy of being enabled to pass this forest in the night without the least interruption. Had the precaution been observed, of setting fire to their short suburb, and to the out-works near the vineyard, it would have impeded the enemy even after they had passed the batteries and fire-kettles, but this most necessary article was postponed till the next day, when it was too late, as the enemy had already arrived in the suburb.

On the same day intelligence was brought them that General

General Fermor, Prince Charles of Saxony, and many other general-officers, had dined at Vietz, a village about two German miles (ten English) from Custrin, and that they there held a council on the observation made the evening before, where their batteries were to be erected, and what else was to be done next day.

After receiving this account, they endeavoured to prevail on their old commandant to order the trees to be cut down to obstruct the enemy, and to have the suburbs and vineyard set on fire, which would have enabled them to observe the motions of the enemy, and have prevented their operations, which immediately after their arrival, they began behind the vineyard; but their entreaties were in vain—their governor was too obstinate.

In the evening, General Schorlemmer, with the new governor, arrived, and went with a small party to reconnoitre the enemy; but being pursued by the Cossacks to the city, they were soon obliged to return, and very narrowly escaped. After their return, they persuaded the poor inhabitants to be entirely easy, assuring them they were in no danger; this they certainly did from humane motives, as they undoubtedly did not suspect the enemy's cruel design. Accordingly, every body went to bed, in full confidence that the succours would be sufficient to prevent the enemy from beginning their operations; but, between four and five in the morning, the terrified inhabitants were roused by the noise and shrieks of the hussars and Cossacks, intermixed with cannon-shot.

The whole city was in the greatest confusion and alarm: many thronged to the church-steeple, and from thence discovered the whole plain, behind the little su-

burb, covered, as far as the forest, with the enemy's troops, and their own light-horse, supported by the infantry, engaged in different places with the enemy.

By eight o'clock was seen, by the aid of glasses, a fresh body of the enemy's infantry coming from Tamsel and Warnsok, marching towards the vineyard, the van of which, by computation, consisted of 4000 or 5000 men, a great cloud of dust prevented the remainder from being seen distinctly; the thickness of the wood also interfered, in concealing that part of the enemy from their view. As soon as this body of infantry was arrived near the vineyard, the fire began with cartridge-shot from their batteries, made the evening before, upon the piquet-guard and hussars, who were obliged to retire, and then they fired ricochat-shot upon the tents and baggage of the four battalions encamped upon the Anger, which made them also retire, with all their baggage, into the city, and in less than half an hour after, the enemy threw such a number of bombs and red-hot bullets, that, by nine o'clock, it burnt with great fury in three different places, which could not be extinguished, as the houses were closely built, and their streets narrow: the air appeared like a shower of firey rain and hail. The surprised inhabitants had not time to think of any thing but saving their miserable lives by getting into the open fields; many had scarcely time to put on their cloaths; the husband was to be seen leading his trembling wife, with a child in her arms, and driving his other children and servants before him, almost without any covering, having ever since the first night, run about in a bewildered state, as they got out of bed. The bombs and red-hot bullets fell around them in every direction. The bombs, in bursting, dashed the houses, and every thing that

that was in their way, to pieces. Thus they went out of one misery into another, leaving every comfort, or even the means of life itself, behind. Every one that could escape, got out of town as fast as possible, and the crowds of naked and wretched beings were numerous.

Among the women, there were several of distinction, who had neither shoes nor stockings, nor indeed hardly any cloathing, as their first and only thought was the preservation of their lives. Many of the men, after seeing their families secure in the open fields, endeavoured to return, in the hope of saving something, if possible, from the general wreck, but in vain; such was the state of the wretched inhabitants, some with horses and carriages, others with sick and bed-ridden on their backs, while the bombs, cannon-balls, and red-hot bullets were assailing, them that every body thought himself happy if he could escape. Many thousands were rendered miserable, inhabitants as well as strangers. Many from the open country, and defenceless towns of Prussia, Pomerania, and the New Marche, had fled thither with their most valuable effects, when the Russians entered the Prussian territories, in hopes of security; but a great many who were a little while ago possessed of large fortunes, were now reduced to beggary. On the road was seen nothing but misery, and nothing heard but cries and lamentations, enough to move the coldest heart, as no one knew where to get a morsel of bread, nor what to do for their future subsistence. The neighbouring towns and villages were soon filled. Those who staid till next day at Goltze, to wait the further event of things, were soon informed, that, amongst the other buildings, the great magazine, the governor's house, the church, the

palace, the store and artillery houses—in short, the old and new town, the suburbs, and the great bridge over the Oder, as well as all the others, were reduced to ashes. Many of the inhabitants were missing, who were supposed to have perished in the flames, or under the ruins, or in their fright hid themselves in vaults, or subterraneous caverns, where they had been suffocated. The writings of the colleges were entirely destroyed, as well as the valuable archives of the country, which were considered a very immense loss: in the king's magazine, was also a prodigious quantity of corn and flour. The loss was computed at several millions of crowns. The fire was so furious, that the cannon in the store and artillery houses were melted: the filled bombs for cannons, and musquets, a large quantity of gun-powder, and other combustibles, went off at once with a horrible explosion. After the bridges were consumed, the piles and sterlings were consumed to the water's edge. The spectacle was terrible. Unless the destruction of Troy and Jerusalem, history does not furnish a scene so replete with horror.

The enemy's fury fell entirely on the miserable inhabitants; they did not begin to batter the fortifications, except with a few shot, till after the rest was all destroyed. The garrison continued in it, fully determined to defend it from falling into the hands of the enemy.

In a few days after, the King of Prussia arrived in the neighbourhood, upon which the Russians thought proper to abandon their enterprize, and this brought on the battle of Zorndorf.

Custrin is a city of Brandenburgh, in Germany; it lies east from Berlin about forty-five miles, and is situated on the river Oder.

BATTLE

BATTLE OF ZORNDORF.

This battle was, as we have just observed, the immediate consequence of the siege of Custrin. The King of Prussia, having been obliged to raise the siege of Olmutz, advanced to face the Russian army, who were exercising the most cruel barbarities in the countries through which they marched.

The protector and avenger of his dominions was now, however, at hand. On the 23d of August, 1758, the King of Prussia's whole army passed the Oder at Glustebissel, about twenty English miles to the north-east of Custrin. The Russians, on the first notice of his approach, broke up the siege of that place, and marched towards the villages of Zwicker and Zorndorf. It was the king's intention to wind round the left flank of their army, and to take them in the rear, by which he hoped to throw them into confusion. But in this he found himself disappointed. The Russian generals had foreseen his purpose, and made excellent dispositions. As the ground did not admit them to extend greatly in length, they threw themselves into a square body, composed of four lines, forming a front almost equal on every side, surrounded with cannon and chevaux-de-frize. In this formidable disposition they waited the attack of the Prussians.

It was on the 25th, that the King of Prussia, after a march of fifty-six days, from the midst of Moravia, brought his army in the presence of the Russians. The king had never been personally engaged with that enemy before. His troops had never obtained any advan-

tage over them. The whole fortune of the war depended upon the event of this day.

The Prussians were now in the closest sense to fight for their country, which was ready to fall under one of the severest scourges with which Providence has chastised a nation. Nothing was wanting which could inspire the soldiers with revenge. Every where the marks of the enemy's cruelty were before their eyes; the country desolated on every side, and the villages in flames all around the field of battle.

At nine o'clock in the morning, the battle began by a fire of cannon and mortars, which rained on the right wing of the Russians, without the least intermission, for near two hours. Nothing could exceed the havoc made by this terrible fire, nor the constancy with which the Muscovite foot, raw and inexperienced, sustained a slaughter that would have confounded and dispersed the completest veterans. They fell in their ranks; new regiments still pressed forward to fill their places, and to supply new slaughter. When the first line had fired all their charges, they rushed forward on the Prussians, That firm body of the Prussian infantry, which had often stood, and often given so many terrible shocks, by one of those unaccountable movements of the human mind, that render every thing in war so precarious, gave way in the presence of their sovereign, and when they had in a manner secured the victory, retired in disorder before the half-broken battalions of the Muscovites. Had the Russian officers known how to profit by this disorder; had they immediately thrown in their horse with vigour to complete it, and entirely broke that body, this had probably been the last day of Prussian greatness. The king was not so negligent; for just in this anxious moment,

moment, when the battle was yet in suspense, by a very rapid and masterly motion, he brought all the cavalry of the right to the centre, which, with General Leidlitz at their head, bursting in upon the Russian foot, uncovered by their horse, and disordered even by their advantage, they pushed them back with a most miserable slaughter. The repulsed battalions of Prussia had time to recollect, and to form themselves; and now returning to the onset with a rage, exasperated by their late disgrace, they entirely turned the balance of the fight.

The Russians were thrown into the most horrible confusion. The wind blew the dust and smoke full in their faces. They no longer distinguished friends or enemies. They fired upon each other, In this distraction, they plundered their own baggage which stood between the lines, and intoxicated themselves with brandy. Orders were now no more heard or obeyed. The ranks fell in upon one another; and being crammed together in a narrow space, every shot discharged by the Prussians had its full effect, whilst the Russians kept up only a scattered fire, without direction or effect, and quite over the heads of their enemies. It was now no longer a battle, but a horrid and undistinguishing carnage. Yet still (which is a wonderful circumstance) the Russians, thus distracted and slaughtered, kept their ground. The action continued, without intermission, from nine in the morning till seven at night. At last the night itself, the fatigue of the Prussians, and a judicious attack on their right wing, which drew their attention on that side, gave the Russian army some respite to recover their order, and an opportunity of retiring a little from the scene of their disaster. On their side near 10,000 fell upon the spot; they had more than 10,000 wounded, most of them

them mortally: 959 officers, not including the inferior, were killed, wounded, and taken prisoners: of two particular regiments, consisting, before the battle, of 4[illegible] effective men, only 1475 were left: their whole loss on this bloody day, was 2[illegible]59 men. That of the Prussians, in every way, did not amount to 8000.

It appears that both parties spent the night on or very near the field of battle. The Prussians had all the fruits and most of the proofs of a victory the most decisive: a vast train of artillery taken, the military chest, a number of prisoners, many of them officers of rank; the retreat of the Russian army on the next and following days; their General Fermor's request for leave to bury the dead; their incapacity to advance and form any new enterprise; the King of Prussia's unmolested operations against his other enemies.

Nothing less, indeed, than a very complete victory could have done any essential service to the king's affairs at that time, when four armies of his enemies were making their way to one common centre, and threatened to unite in the heart of Brandenburg. The event of the last day had shewn them, that there was no way of safety but in a retreat, and in effect they retreated before the Prussians as far as Landsperg, on the frontiers of Poland. The King of Prussia was convinced, that their late check must wholly disable them from attempting anything material against his dominions on that side; and he saw clearly, that whatever he might hope to gain by improving his advantage against the Russians, he must lose far more by allowing his other enemies to make a progress on the side of Saxony. He satisfied himself, therefore, with leaving a small body of troops, under Count Dohna, to observe the motions of the

Muscovite

Muscovite army, and marched with the greatest part of his forces, and the utmost expedition, to the relief of Saxony.

BATTLE OF HOCHKIRCHEN.

This battle announced the return of the King of Prussia's attention to his former enemy. The armies of the King of Prussia and Mareschal Daun now (October, 1758,) kept each other at bay: but these generals seemed to maintain the greatest caution; they were both vigilant but not presumptuous; they stirred not a step without having well considered it.

The Mareschal kept his advantageous camp at Stoplen, by which he preserved a communication with the army of the empire. The army was secured by its inaccessible situation, but it enterprized nothing of consequence. The king of Prussia, on the other hand, having taken possession of the important post of Bautzen, which lies so opportunely for commanding at once both Misnia and Lusatia, extended his right wing to Hockirchen.

By this position, he preserved a communication with the army of his brother, Prince Henry, protected Brandenburg from the incursions of the Austrians, and at the same time, that he secured these interesting objects, he was situated for throwing succours into Silesia, and he could be any where else, consistently with a general plan. The two armies kept the most watchful eye upon each other's motions. The principal aim of the King of Prussia seemed to have been the preventing M. Daun from communicating with Bohemia. The great intention of M. Daun was to cut off the King from Silesia. Things were so balanced, that it did not seem possible, by mere skill

skill in marches and positions, to answer their ends very fully, therefore a battle seemed inevitable; but it seemed too, that, in considering the situations of both armies, a battle could not be attempted without extreme danger to the party who should begin the attack.

M. Daun saw, that if any more time was lost without action, the very season must oblige him to evacuate Saxony, and thus give up all fruits of the campaign. He came to a resolution of giving the King of Prussia battle. But even in the vigour of this resolution appeared the extreme caution which characterizes that able general.

Having communicated his design to the Prince of Deux-Ponts, and settled measures with him, he *marched* in the dead of a very dark night, in three columns, towards the King of Prussia's camp. Notwithstanding the darkness of the night, (October 14th), and the necessary division of the Austrian army, the greatness of their number, and the length of way they had to march, yet such was the wise conduct and great good-fortune of this design, that they all arrived at the same time at the Prussian camp, none having lost their way, without discovery, and without confusion, and began the attack with the greatest regularity and resolution at five o'clock in the morning.

How the king's out-guards were kept, so as to make such a surprise practicable, is hard to say. It is hard to accuse the vigilance of a commander, or the attention of so many finished officers as served under him. To speak of treachery, is a way of accounting for misfortunes more common than reasonable. However it was, the Prussians had not time to strike their tents, when they found the enemy in the midst of the camp, and an

impetuous

impetuous attack already commenced. Scarce had the battle begun, when the defeat seemed certain, not so much from the confusion of the troops, as the irreparable loss of two officers in the highest command, and of the greatest merit. M. Keith received two musquet-balls, and fell dead on the spot. Prince Francis of Brunswick had his head shot off by a cannon-ball as he was mounting his horse. The King of Prussia had then the whole affair to sustain at the time when he most wanted assistance. But his presence of mind, his firmness, his activity, remedied in some measure the effects of this unforeseen attack, and the losses it had occasioned; he was every where present, and inspired the troops with an ardour like his own. The king ordered some detachments from his left, to reinforce his right wing; but in the moment the orders were received, the left was furiously attacked. General Retzow, who commanded in that quarter, with difficulty repulsed the Austrians, and was not able to afford any considerable assistance to the right, who was alone obliged to support the whole weight of the grand attack.

The Austrians, in the beginning of the engagement, had beaten them out of the village of Hochkirchen; as the fate of the day depended upon that post, the hottest of the dispute was there. The Prussians made three hot and successful attacks on the village, in the fourth they carried it; but the Austrians pouring in continually fresh troops upon that spot, drove them out at length, after reiterated efforts, and a great slaughter on both sides. The king, despairing of the fortune of the field, ordered a retreat; his troops, which had been suddenly attacked in a dark night by superior numbers, and had run to arms, some half-naked, and all in the utmost con-

confusion, had, notwithstanding, made a vigorous resistance, and maintained the fight for near five hours. They made their retreat in good order, without being pursued, supported by the countenance of their cavalry, and the fire of a numerous and well-served artillery, which was placed in the centre of their camp. They lost in this dreadful action at least 7000 men, killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, together with many cannon. The Austrian account allowed their own loss, in killed and wounded, to amount to near 5000.

The King of Prussia, in retiring from Hochkirchen, in fact only altered the position of his right wing, which fell back as far as Weissenburg, his left still remained at Bautzen. This position was nearly as good as the former. The great loss was that of reputation, which always attends a defeat, accompanied by the regret of losing two such great generals.

If the King of Prussia lost some reputation, in suffering himself to be surprised in this affair, the most disgraceful error of a general, he fully retrieved it by his extraordinary conduct in the course of the action, and his admirable efforts after it. On the whole, perhaps the King of Prussia will appear greater in this defeat, than in any victory he ever yet obtained. The wing of his army, that was surprised, was attacked at a distance from him, the two generals that commanded it slain in the first onset, his other principal generals wounded, the whole wing in confusion, without a leader; to come in these desperate circumstances, in haste, from another quarter, to recover all, twice to repulse the enemy, and at last to retire, overborn only by numbers and fatigue, without being pursued, is such an instance of great generalship, as perhaps has never been exceeded.

We

We interrupt an unfortunate series of failures, only to give a tribute of recollection to the life and character of a truly great man who fell on the last occasion.

JAMES KEITH, younger son of William Keith, Earl Mareschal of Scotland, was born in 1696, at the castle of Dunnotter, in the shire of Kincairdin, whose magnificent ruins yet attract the eye of every curious or tasteful traveller, and have lately been the subject of some very harmonious verses, by the elegant Mrs. Scott, of Benholm. He received a domestic education from the celebrated Thomas Ruddiman, the learned printer, and author of the Latin Rudiments; and an academical one under Bishop Keith and William Meston, in the college of Aberdeen. He early discovered a propensity to letters, which induced his noble friends to design him for the profession of the law; but this too frequent misconception operated less fatally with him, than it hath done in many other instances; for on perceiving that his taste for elegant literature was too exquisite, to be submitted to the cold, dry study of the legal *Fathers*, they complied with his adoption of the profession of arms, so congenial to his talents and vivacity.

This decision, in favour of his military genius, had not long taken place, when an unhappy occasion presented itself for its exertion, in the rebellion of 1715. His father was now dead, and his mother with a spirit, though misguided, not unworthy the character of a Roman matron, sent him, with his brother, the representative of their ancient and honourable family, to combat for what she conceived to be the cause of loyalty. He was in the battle of Sheriffmuir, near Dumblain, signalized, and wounded, and the forces of the pretender being defeated, compelled to escape to France.

On the continent he resumed his studies with vigour, but more particularly those which related to the character of a soldier. He pursued the mathematics with M. de Maupertuis to such a proficiency, that he was early at the particular recommendation of the professor, admitted a member of the Parisian Royal Academy of Sciences, and distinguished himself at the meetings in a very particular manner. From France he proceeded through Italy, Switzerland, and Portugal, and returned to Paris in 1717. In the same year, the fame of his talents procured him the attention of the Czar of Muscovy, Peter, who strongly solicited him to enter into the Russian service, an offer he refused, from an objection to hostilities against his favourite character the King of Sweden.

Leaving Paris again, he visited Madrid, and by the interest of the Duke of Liria, obtained a commission in an Irish brigade, commanded by the Duke of Ormond, then exiled with the tory ministry from England; this was, however, neither attractive nor permanent, and his patron going soon after ambassador extraordinary to Muscovy, he accompanied him thither, and was then placed in the service of the Czarina, who created him a knight of the Black Eagle, and made him a lieutenant-general in her army. These honours he repaid by the most essential services, both in war and negotiation. The genius and splendid talents of Keith had by this time become the admiration of every court he visited, while his curious and ardent mind elicited a fund of intelligence from them all: experience had also matured his judgment; so that he was become too great a man to be long overlooked by the discriminating care of Frederic. He therefore removed to Prussia, where the

King

king made him governor of Berlin, and field-marshal, with extraordinary salaries sufficient to support him in the highest ranks.

It was now that Marshal Keith enjoyed that delightful leisure which enabled him to collect his ideas upon every subject, and to concoct that knowledge of different states which exceeded every politician of his time. It was from thence, that he corresponded with his relations, and some other great men, with an acuteness of conception, justness of reasoning, and felicity of expression, that astonished all who saw his enlightened letters; to facilitate his acquisition of the best information, Frederic the Great took him into his most secret confidence, and travelled with him incog over a great part of Germany, Poland, and Hungary, thereby obtaining unperceived an intimate knowledge of countries, through which he was thereafter to lead the war. The King of Prussia ever afterwards made him his chief counsellor in business, and the most intimate companion of his pleasures; a distinction to which he had every title, if it be true, as it hath been asserted, "that it was from the knowledge of ancient and modern war, with which the marshal was so amply stored, that the king drew his best ideas on military tactics and discipline."

In the part of the seven years' war, which has preceded this brief account of one of the greatest ornaments of Britain, Marshal Keith was distinguished on many occasions, and always in the exercise of judgment. He was equally admired in the court as in the camp, and celebrated for his chearful and elegant manners, even in very advanced age. Towards the latter part of his life, he derived much delight from directing, by epistolary correspondence, the education of his nephew, Lord

George Drummond, in which he endeavoured to form him entirely from himself, and to render him equally the wonder of his time. A part of this correspondence, which the writer of the present notice has seen in English and French manuscript, and which he knows not if it has been printed in any language, furnishes a more intelligent and eloquent account of Europe, during a long and important period, than any other work whatever, besides an illustration of human nature in general, in the different spheres, in which he had seen it, highly valuable to the philosopher and the politician. In it the progress of the Russians, and the partition of unhappy Poland, are foretold in a manner nervous, instructive, and perspicuous.

Marshal Keith was 62 years of age when he fell in the battle of Hochkirchen, beloved, admired, and lamented, even by distracted Europe.

The death of a number of brave and distinguished officers formed a gloomy close to the campaign of 1758, which was not improved by the commencement of that which followed.

THE BATTLE OF BERGEN.

This unfortunate stroke, which disconcerted the whole plan of operations, formed for the campaign of 1759, seemed of itself of no moment. One would have thought it too trifling to have had any particular influence; but the event has taught us to think otherwise.

The advantage of the campaign, in 1759, seemed certain to that power, which should prevent the order of its operations. This was his Prussian majesty's opinion. And his plan was to strike the first blow on every side. Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, to whom the

the king left the French, was to have shut up Broglio's army beyond the Mayne, and even on the further side of the Rhine, and to keep every thing disposed on his right to fall upon Mareschal de Contade's quarters, to carry off some of them, disperse the others, and return to the frontiers of the United Provinces, to compel the states-general to declare themselves. The delivering up Nimeguen as a deposit, was to be the preliminary of the capitulation itself. It was not doubted in the Prussian armies, but that Prince Ferdinand would execute the part of the plan assigned to him; and if upon that supposition, that Prince Henry of Prussia was to enter Bohemia, take possession of that kingdom, and from thence send detachments to Franconia. The first of these advantages, were to enable his Prussian majesty to take post in Poland, to be beforehand with the Russians there, and to intercept their march to Silesia.

Had this plan been favoured by fortune, the Austrian, Russian, and French armies, must, with great disadvantage, have continually retreated, to avoid risking battles, of which the loss would be irreparable. It did not, however, take place; for Prince Ferdinand having been beaten at Bergen, Prince Henry was only able to make incursion into Bohemia and Franconia. The eruption into Poland was neither carried far nor supported.

Suspecting the enemy's generals would be led into some false step, either from lassitude or impatience, which would enable him to change the nature of the war, his Prussian majesty barricaded himself in Silesia, and patiently waited the event.

The Duke de Broglio, who commanded a detach-

ment of the allied army, under the command of the Prince D'Isemburg, was marching towards him, posted himself, on the 12th of May, 1759, near the village of Bergen, which he made the right of his army, and at the same time secured his flanks and centre in such a manner, that the enemy might be obliged to make their attacks by that village. On the 13th, at ten in the morning, they came in sight, and made their dispositions under cover of a rising ground, over which they marched, and attacked the village with great vigour.

The Duke de Broglio had, the preceding night, posted in it eight German battalions, and had also placed behind it several brigades of French foot. The prince, in the space of three hours and a half, made three attacks, and was in each repulsed, then returned, and remained some time behind the rising ground that covered his disposition. He then separated his infantry into two bodies, and posted one on the right, and the other on the left, whilst the cavalry formed in the centre, with a small column of infantry before it. The French imagined from this disposition, that he intended to attack at the same time, both the village of Bergen, and the wood on their left, where the whole body of Saxons were placed; and supposed, if one of these attacks should succeed, he would afterwards fall upon their centre.—This was the more probable, as he had brought a number of cannon against the village, and cannonaded it with great spirit, and as he had also several pieces on the right, with which he commanded the head of the wood where the volunteers were posted. This, however, did not make the allies return to the charge, and nothing was effected during the rest of the day, but a very brisk cannonading, that lasted till night should enable

able them to make their retreat, which they did without the knowledge of the Duke de Broglio.

Had this detachment of the allies succeeded in forcing this advanced post of the French army, for it was nothing more, a general engagement would have been the consequence, when, according to all appearance of probability, victory would have been declared for the allies, who, from this unfortunate repulse, were obliged to retreat; and those excellent dispositions of Prince Ferdinand, were now turned from the offensive to the defensive. In this state that prince continued, till he gained the battle of Minden, which we shall hereafter describe.

The loss of the allies in this action was very considerable. Four thousand men were killed, wounded, and taken prisoners; they also lost five pieces of cannon, which were left behind them in the village: but their principal misfortune was their losing the brave Prince D'Isemburg, whose undaunted resolution, intrepidity, and heroism, have imprinted his name on the records of immortality. He was killed at the head of his grenadiers, in the third and last attack on the village; and it is probable, had not his death discouraged the soldiers, the post would have been forced. The French are said to have lost near as many men as the allies, and their numbers before the action were nearly equal, each army amounting to about 12,000 men.

Bergen is a village which lies between Hanover and Frankfort, about three miles from the latter, and is situated on the river Mayne, in Germany.

BATTLE OF ZULLICHAU.

Count Dohna having desired and obtained leave to quit the command of the Prussians, and retire to Berlin, for the recovery of his health, Lieutenant-general Wedel was appointed to succeed him, who accordingly arrived at the camp of Zullichau on the 22d of July, escorted by 200 dragoons of Schorlemmer's regiment, commanded by Major Podewils. That officer had, in his march, defeated one of the enemy's detachments that was then plundering the village of Radaitz, of which he took 69 prisoners, and killed upwards of 80. General Wedel's first step on his arrival, was to reconnoitre the position of the Russian camp at Langeneik. On the 29d, it appearing, by the motions of the enemy, that it was their intention to quit camp, and again draw nearer the Oder, General Wedel, on his side, in order to oppose their passing that river, marched the army in two columns, one towards Kay, and the other towards Mose. The head of his vanguard, consisting of cavalry, had hardly passed the defile of Kay before they attacked the enemy's light troops, which were repulsed with great loss. The enemy were afterwards continually harrassed on their march; and the cavalry commanded by General Schorlemmer fell upon them at different times, with great impetuosity and success. Lieutenant-General Manteussel made also an attack, and possessed himself of several of the enemy's batteries. But as the Russians were advancing under cover of the batteries, they had placed on the heights, from whence they fired very briskly, while the artillery on our side could be of no service, General Wedel thought proper

proper to content himself with the advantages he had gained without returning to the charge. He, therefore, pitched his camp within cannon-shot of the enemy; his right wing extending to the hill of Kay, where the attack began. The loss cannot have exceeded 1000 men killed and wounded. That of the enemy, which is not exactly known, was very considerable. He lost General Wapersnow in one of the attacks, and General Manteussel was wounded.

The scene of this affair lies in the principality of Croffen, in Silesia, thirty miles east from Frankfort, on the river Oder.

BATTLE OF MINDEN.

The whole plan of operations for the campaign (1759) being, as before shewn, frustrated by the unfortunate affair at Bergen. His serene Highness, Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, retreated, and the Duke de Broglio, afterwards a Mareschal of France, joined his victorious troops to the grand army command by M. de Contades. The French army, after this junction, amounted to at least 68,000 men, some accounts said 75,000. The allies were not inferior, but were soon after considerably weakened by making detachments for garrisons. Contades pursued, and, as he thought, with great caution; he was fortunate in taking such steps as did not expose him to the enemy, but it was rather the effect of chance than judgment, for oftentimes he was obliged to encamp in those places, where he was happily secure, when he intended to have gone farther. This good luck continued with him all June, and greatest part of July.

On the 31st of this month, 1759, the two armies encamped

camped within the distance of seven miles from each other. The allies extended from Thornhausen, almost to Hille, making a line of little less than nine miles, while the French were more compact, they did not take up the space of three miles. They were a little higher than Minden, having that city and Torffmoor in their front. About evening they struck their tents, and advanced to the marsh or moor, and in the dead of the night proceeded to Minden Heath. Mareschal Contades drew up his army in a very imprudent manner, if we may credit the report of his own officers, or the dislike they expressed of it. He placed his infantry in the wings, and his cavalry in the centre. He expected to find the allies in that disposition; but surely no general would place his infantry on the wings, where there was a probability of being flanked, and as the French army was by much the superior, it could, consequently, form a larger front; therefore Contades seemed strangely erroneous to think Duke Ferdinand should draw up in such a disadvantageous manner on a plain. He also entertained a notion, that the left wing of the Duke's army, commanded by Lieutenant-general Wangenheim, which extended to the banks of the Weser, was extremely weak, that it consisted rather of a detachment than a wing of the army, because it was separated, and his main force was at Hille. Certain it is, his main force was near Hille, and Wangenheim's corps was encamped at some distance from it; but still there was a communication between them.

On the 30th and 31st days of July, Mareschal Contades, having called in all his detachments, by it alarming the commander of the allied army, who guessed at the mareschal's design, and therefore on the 31st, at

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five o'clock in the afternoon, he ordered the army to hold themselves in readiness to march at one o'clock in the morning, and gave all his advanced posts a strict charge to be very attentive to the motions of the enemy during the night, to prevent a surprise.

As soon as the French army entered the heath of Minden, M. Contades detached the Duke de Broglio to attack Wangenheim's corps; but, before this could be executed, two deserters came to the tent of Prince Ferdinand, and acquainted him with the design of the enemy. They had, indeed, left their regiments four hours before, but still they came time enough to confirm those suspicions which reason and experience had suggested. The prince sent advice of it to Wangenheim at three o'clock, and at the same time sent all the aids-de-camp about him to every part of the army with orders to move without the least delay. Broglio's corps appeared before Thornhausen, between three and four o'clock, but did not fire till the cannon of the left wing should play on the village of Hille, which was not till four, then he attacked the advanced guard; but how great was his surprize, when, instead of finding Wangenheim's troops asleep in their tents, as he expected, they were drawn up in order of battle, and had even an intrenched post at Thornhausen: he, however, began the attack by a discharge of cannon, which was at first but faintly returned, but, after some more salutes of this sort, they quickly gained the ascendant, and Broglio thought proper to retreat a little.

At four o'clock the village of Hille was cannonaded from a battery which the enemy had raised at Eikhorst. The English officers were alarmed at this, for they had never been made acquainted that the enemy intended to

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give battle, though the rest of the army had. The Marquis of Granby, as soon as he heard the firing, immediately ordered his horse, and sent to Lord George Sackville's quarters to know if there were any orders, and what the firing was; every thing was quiet there, and the messenger returned without having been able to learn any thing. The marquis then repaired to the duke's quarters, and presently found that it was the enemy had been firing.

About this time the army was put in motion, except that part of it under the command of General Wangenheim, which kept its old position at Thornhausen. By some mistake in the hurry of making ready, the artillery never received orders to advance till very late; the commanding officer enquired after them, and received them from Lord George Sackville between six and seven o'clock. As soon as the army had marched through the great wood, and being got on Minden Heath, the infantry were found in sight of the enemy; a body of German cavalry was on their left, which preserved the communication between Wangenheim, and that was all the service they were of, for they were never in the action: another body of cavalry, commanded by Lord George Sackville, was on their right, but the wood which ran obliquely and between them, hindered them from seeing each other.

What followed must astonish every military and common capacity; six regiments of British infantry, assisted by two of Hanoverian guards, were detached from the right of the line of infantry, to charge the enemy's centre, which consisted of sixty squadrons of horse; they obeyed this order, and to their eternal honour, by half an hour past eight, drove the enemy before them, without

out any other assistance than from the artillery of their own country. In vain did the French cavalry attempt to rally, they could not look this little corps of infantry in the face. In vain was it taken in front and flank by their artillery, its resolution was not to be daunted; the ground where they marched was strewed with slaughter, and blood and carnage now paved the path to glory. Just before the brave body of infantry advanced to attack, Duke Ferdinand sent Winschingrode, his Hessian aid-de-camp, with an order to Lord George Sackville to march with the *right wing of cavalry*, and form a line behind the infantry, which he might do by marching through the wood, that hindered him from seeing the infantry; Lord George did not understand how this march was to be made, and hesitated concerning the order, which, as the aid-de-camp thought, he delivered in a very clear manner, and fully persuaded that Lord George understood it, immediately left him; but as Lord George observed: "It is very natural for a person to suppose, that what he means to express he has expressed plainly, though the person to whom he speaks finds great difficulty in understanding it." No sooner was Winschingrode gone, than Colonel Ligonier came to Lord George Sackville, with an order from the Duke, for his lordship to march with the *cavalry under his command*, and profit on the disorder which appeared in the enemy's cavalry; upon which his lordship began to advance, when Colonel Fitzroy arrived with another order from the duke for him to advance with the *British cavalry only*. Lord George told them their orders disagreed; "In numbers, my lord," said Fitzroy, "but their destination is the same—to the left." Neither of these gentlemen could tell which set off first, and both were

positive in their injunctions. Lord George, thereupon, went to the duke himself, and having received the order from his own mouth, proceeded to obey it. But now it was too late to do any service, the little body of infantry had obliged the enemy to retreat, but they did it in extreme good order, by the special care and vigilance of the Duke de Broglio, who having made no impression on Wangenheim, drew off to succour the centre; and here it is amazing, that the French cavalry did not double-up and enclose those few combatants, for they were at a distance from all their friends.

There is, evidently, great room to charge all the commanders with misconduct, Lord George Sackville for not immediately obeying the order brought by Capt. Winschingrode; Duke Ferdinand for never putting the allied army in a line, and suffering the eight regiments of infantry to be unsustained and uncovered in their flanks, though the rest of the infantry was behind them, and the cavalry of their left wing nearer to them than the cavalry on their right. It may be thought temerity in us to say, that since the commander on the right (Lord George Sackville) did not obey, it was but reasonable to assist them with some commander that would.

The Mareschal de Contades was inexcusable for his dispositions, which had often lost his country great advantages, and by which he lost his command; and Broglio, after he had joined the centre, for not surrounding the detached body of infantry, which would have given them the victory.

The French not having been molested by the cavalry of either wing in their retreat, had an opportunity of regaining their advantageous camp. They had, indeed, lost

lost the honour of the day, and missed the stroke which they had meditated. They had likewise lost a great number of men. But all their losses and disgraces might be repaired, and there seemed nothing decisive in the day of Minden. *It had certainly happened, as it then appeared, from the delay of the Duke, who foreseeing this, had not formed the plan, and detached the hereditary Prince of Brunswick at five in the morning of that day.*

This young hero attacked a large body of the French under the Duke de Brisac; this body, though posted in a most advantageous way, he entirely defeated, and obliged them to take refuge in Minden. The news of this blow came with an ill omen to M. de Contades, in the instant when the English infantry began to engage his centre. The enemy himself could not help admiring the dexterity of the stroke under which he sunk; and full of astonishment at a conduct at once so daring and judicious, paid the just applause to a general who could detach with security so large a body from his army, when he was going to attack an enemy already much superior to him in numbers.

This happy stroke decided the affair; all the passes through which the French could draw succour or provision were seized. He relinquished their strong post; they fled through Minden, and passed the Weser, retreating to the eastward of that river; thus losing all the advantages they had made in the campaign, and forced to retreat through a country different from that through which they had advanced, and in which they had taken no measure to procure subsistence.

The loss of the French in this action amounted to about 7000 men killed, wounded, and prisoners, among whom were many officers of considerable rank. The

loss of the allies was not more than 2000. The English, as they gained the greatest glory, so they were the greatest sufferers; 1200 of the killed and wounded were of that nation. The Prince, on the day after the battle, paid the due honours to these illustrious persons, as well as to the several corps of the Hanoverians, who had behaved in the same gallant manner. He did justice to the merit of the officers, he distinguished their names, and even particularized so low as captains. To some in the most obliging manner he sent considerable presents; and he omitted nothing to shew that he knew what it was to be well served, and how to encourage the troops and officers to do their duty with spirit and cheerfulness.

Although the English had the greatest share of the honour of this signal day, and that the French acknowledged their merit in the strongest terms, yet a cloud was cast over the triumph. There were some expressions in the orders for rejoicing which was supposed to convey a very severe reflection on Lord George Sackville, commander in chief of the English forces. The duke required, with an emphasis which seemed particularly pointed, that his orders by his aids-de-camp for the future should be more particularly obeyed. In a manner still less to be understood, he expressed his concern that the Marquis of Granby had not the command of the British cavalry. Had he commanded, his highness made no doubt the success of the day had been much more complete and brilliant. The severe insinuation concerning the disobedience to orders, and the invidious compliment to a subordinate officer were clear declarations.

The news of a victory so glorious to our troops, and

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of a censure so disgraceful to their commander, came at once to England. In proportion to the joy that filled all hearts, in proportion to their opinion of the great general to whom they owed so seasonable an advantage, was their indignation against the unfortunate commander, to whom it was attributed, that this advantage was not greater. The public, as usual, judged definitively upon the first charge. They never pardon a general whose error it is to fall short.

A few days after the battle his lordship resigned his command, and returned to London. He had been but a few days in London when he was deprived of all his military employments. The Marquis of Granby, whom the opinion of Prince Ferdinand had pointed out, succeeded him in his command.

Whilst these changes were making, Duke Ferdinand lost no time to improve his victory, by the pursuit of the French. The allies, indeed, were not able to overtake the main body of their army, but they harassed them extremely, and the French were obliged to sacrifice a great part of their army by piece-meal, to preserve the rest entire.

The necessity of providing subsistence drove them towards Cassel. The prince pursued them, obliged them to evacuate that place, and once more freed that poor distressed country from French tyranny. The castle of Zeigenhayn, after an hour's defence, gave the allies about 400 prisoners. After this, the hereditary Prince of Brunswick, equally conspicuous in the greater and the lesser operations of war, made a private march at night (August 27th), in order to surprize a corps of French irregulars, commanded by the famous partisan, Fischer, which were posted at Wetter, where it was

convenient for the allies to encamp; this corps he entirely routed, killing a great number, and taking 400 prisoners. The French threw a garrison into Marpurg, in hopes of putting some stop to the rapid progress of the allies. In effect, this did prove an obstacle for some days; but at length the castle surrendered, and the garrison, consisting of between 800 and 900 men, became prisoners of war.

Here a bound was set to the progress of the allied arms; not that they were stopped by any considerable obstruction from the main body of the French in that quarter, but from some effects in another quarter of the unsuccessful beginning of the campaign, from which the battle of Minden had not yet perfectly disengaged them. Munster was still behind them, and still in the hands of the enemy, who had a powerful garrison in that city. M. de Contades, who, even after his defeat, exceeded the allies in numbers, had now no further view of an offensive campaign, sent a strong body under d'Armentieres, which was reinforced by some troops from the lower Rhine, to near 15,000 men, to cover that place. Duke Ferdinand had before detached General Imhoff from Cassel, in order to reduce it. On the approach of d'Armentieres, Imhoff was obliged to raise the siege. But being soon after reinforced, the French commander retired in his turn towards Wesel, the possession of which place had all along proved of infinite importance to the French in all their operations. The siege of Munster was again resumed; but the business threatened to be difficult and tedious. This, however, was the only rub which the allies encountered. In all other respects they were perfectly fortunate. They had driven their enemy 200 miles before them, and at the end of the

the campaign, after all their efforts, and all their sanguine hopes of conquest, they sat them down just where they had begun it.

The event of the battle of Minden, and the subsequent misfortunes of the French arms, threw Versailles into the utmost confusion. The news of that defeat arrived just as the king was taking horse to hunt. He retired silent and dejected into the apartment of Madame de Pompadour, and for some time saw none of his ministers. The Duke de Broglio and M. de Contades, mutually accused each other for the ill conduct of that day. The public acquitted Broglio. Belleisle and his general, Contades, lost all reputation; but the duke still preserved his employment, and a considerable part of his influence at court.

As soon as the first confusion and surprise of so unexpected an event was a little abated, it was resolved to send reinforcements to their army in Germany, and at the same time, to send thither some officer of experience and authority, who might judge and compose, if possible, the differences which subsisted between the commanders, as well as to assist in the deliberations for retrieving their affairs.

Public misfortunes call great men from their obscurity. M. de Etrees was chosen on this occasion, and invested with an authority which he unwillingly accepted. When he arrived at the French head-quarters, (Sept. 25th), he could not avoid a sigh, on viewing the ruins of that army which had triumphed under his command at Hastenbeck. However, his behaviour to M. de Contades was polite and generous. The old mareschal told him, that he was not come to take his command, but to serve under

der him, and whilst he assisted him with his advice, he would receive his orders.

As soon as the officers could leave their posts, Lord George Sackville, at his own request, was admitted to a court-martial. The charge was disobedience of orders, which was proved; but the court incurred the charge of partiality, and the odium of being under the necessity of proving the charge, in order, as it was said, to justify the taking away his commission. Part of the trial was afterwards laid before the king, (George II.) who was pleased to confirm the sentence, that he (Lord G. S.) was unfit for any military employment; but this did not deprive him of serving his future sovereign in another department of government, wherein his conduct was more successful to his country, and honourable to himself.

The scene of the preceding battle is a city, situated on the river Weser, in the circle of Westphalia, in Germany, about 40 miles west from Hanover.

BATTLE OF CUNNERSDORFF.

The grand Russian army was this year reinforced very strongly, and seemed determined to act with vigour. The Prussians, under the command of General Dohna, were not able to cope with them; therefore that officer was reinforced from the King of Prussia's army at Landshut, and at the same time received orders to fight the enemy, who still being an overmatch, he declined; for this refusal he was dismissed the service, and the command given to General Wedel, who made an attempt upon the enemy; but unfortunately for himself,

self, he was killed, together with several other brave officers, and the troops received a very severe repulse. The King of Prussia, in order to remedy this disaster, abandoned his strong camp at Landshut, and advanced to meet the Russians, who threatened the total destruction of the country they came into.

Mareschal Daun, who never wanted for intelligence, was no sooner informed of the king's design, than he was resolved to be beforehand with him; that is, he resolved to reinforce the Russian army before the king should attack it, that, by superiority, it should be able to maintain the advantage it had gained: for this purpose, he detached General Laudohn with a large body of cavalry, who reached the Russian army before the king could: but Daun, not content with this, resolved to harass the Prussians in their march. This design was intrusted to General Haddick; but the Prussian general, Fink, so effectually covered the rear, and kept so good a look-out, that whenever Haddick approached, he found the Prussians too well prepared for his reception; as he would not, however, be an idle spectator of their rapid march, he made an attempt to carry off some of their baggage-waggons on one of their flanks.

On the 3d day of August, 1758, the king arrived at Bezkow, from whence, it is said, he wrote the following letter to his queen: "After very long and fatiguing marches, I am at length arrived at Bezkow. The public is not without defence. I believe the greatest mischief that all this affair has occasioned, will be the inquietude it has produced. I have beat the corps of Haddick, and taken 1000 prisoners. Fink is at my heels. I shall be to-morrow within two leagues of Frankfort."

At Bezkow he united the unfortunate remains of the battle of Zullichau with his army, which, by this addition, amounted to sixty-nine battalions, and 150 squadrons, making only 48,000 fighting men. This may be easily conceived, as the troops that were in the battle of Zullichau, had suffered such a considerable diminution, and hence also it may be judged, that the enemy greatly exaggerated the strength of his army, when they very often in their relations made it amount to 70,000 men. It need only be remembered, according to the list published at Petersburgh in the spring, the Russian army that was to act this campaign, did not amount to less than 100,000 men; and though these sorts of list are commonly decreased, this was not so much so, of which we have an authentic proof. Some days after the battle of Zullichau, a party of Prussian Hussars carried off, near Owpen, a Russian officer, coming from Possania, charged with a large pacquet of papers, among which was a state of the magazine, by which it appears, before the battle of Zullichau, the Russian army, assembled at Possania, amounted to 89,201 men, and 8319 horses.

If we deduct the servants, supposing them included in that number, and the few troops left behind to guard the magazine, and the loss sustained in the battle of the 23d of July, it should seem that there ought still to remain, at least, 70,000 fighting men in the Russian army; add to these 20,000 Austrians, brought by Landohn, according to the Vienna Journal, and we shall be convinced that the combined army of the enemy was not much short of 90,000 men, and consequently near twice as strong as the Prussians.

Notwithstanding this manifest superiority, the Russians

sians chose to put themselves on the defensive, and to wait for the king, behind the Oder, in an advantageous camp, near Frankfort, which they had sufficient time to fortify with intrenchments and redoubts, and to furnish with a great number of cannon. The king, on the contrary, could not help coming to a decision; for on one hand Saxony was invaded by the troops of the circles, and on the other his capital was threatened by General Haddick: his army marched by Furstenwolde to Lebitz; and after halting some days in the camp of Wulcow, till the bridges on the Oder, near Reitwein, a league from Custrin, were finished, passed the river in the night, between the 10th and 11th of August, without any opposition or any loss. The passage being completed, the army formed near the village of Etcher, and pursued its march to Bischoffree. The reserve, under Lieutenant-general Fink took post on the eminences between Bischoffree and Trettin; the vanguard occupied the first of those villages, behind which the army pitched its camp.

On the twelfth, at two in the morning, it began its march towards Reppin, but halted in the wood, and there formed, and afterwards advanced to the enemy, still keeping back the left wing. As soon as the advanced guard arrived at the eminence which was opposite to the enemy's left, the king ordered several batteries to be erected, which, as well as those of Lieutenant-general Fink, played with good effect. After having cannonaded the enemy for some time, the vanguard advanced against their left wing with little loss, and after a slight resistance forced their intrenchments, in which were found seventy-two pieces of cannon. When the Prussians were masters of the intrenched hill, Lieute-

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nant-general Fink passed the defile, and joined the vanguard, which formed again with the right wing on the hill, in order to attack the redoubts which the enemy had raised between that place and the village of Cunnersdorff. In order to support this attack, new batteries were erected on the hill, the effect of which, considering the height of the place, could not fail to be very considerable. Fink made himself master of the redoubts with little trouble and little loss, and some squadrons of horse secured the country to Cunnersdorff. The enemy endeavoured to keep their ground there, by pushing forward several brigades of horse and foot, but they were obliged to abandon it after a brisk resistance, and to fall back to the last of their redoubts. The Prussian infantry passed through on one side of the village, and made themselves masters of some redoubts, and of several batteries, and on the other hand, their cavalry fell very seasonably upon the Russian foot when they were retiring from the redoubt; but they met with batteries, and were obliged to avoid them. The enemy seeing themselves every where defeated, except on their left wing, assembled all their forces, and the remains of their right wing, to maintain another redoubt, raised on a high eminence. The Prussian infantry attacked it with the greatest valour, but were not able to carry it, both on account of its advantageous position, and of its numerous artillery, which began to be superior. A second attack having succeeded no better than the first, the cavalry endeavoured to force the enemy, and made several attacks with great impetuosity, but were always repulsed by a dreadful fire of cannon, loaded with grape-shot. The enemy's cavalry had as yet done nothing; they seized this opportunity, broke the Prussian squadrons,

squadrons, and forced them to fall back upon the foot; this occasioned a disorder on the left wing, which was filing off by Cunnersdorff to support the right. The king employed every possible expedient to redress matters, exposing his own person to the greatest dangers, but without effect; almost all the general and other officers were either killed or wounded, and the privatemen being overpowered by the heat of the day, and the duration of the engagement, could not gain the ascendant over troops that were constantly relieved by fresh ones, and seconded by continual discharges of prodigious artillery, most advantageously placed.

The army, therefore, fell back by Cunnersdorff to the first hill, furnished with intrenchments, where it endeavoured to maintain its ground; scarce had it time to form, when the enemy advanced in good order, and disputed the post. They were beat back with great loss at the first onset, but the second effort succeeded; the Prussian army then began to retreat by the defile, and rallied on the eminences which General Fink occupied before the battle. On the 13th, in the morning, the army returned to the camp of Etscher, and having passed the Oder at four in the afternoon, went to encamp at Rietwein.

"By this plain and true account, (says a letter by a Prussian officer, who was in the battle, which, in the main, differs little from the description, given by the enemy), we may easily conceive, that if the valour of our troops was forced to yield this time to the great superiority of numbers, and manifest advantage of the enemy, both in the ground and in the artillery, the whole of their exploit is nothing more than repelling our attack, and preserving their position; for they ven-

tured neither to pursue us beyond the field of battle, nor to molest us in repassing the Oder. We know, on the contrary, they lay all night on their arms, for fear of a fresh action. After this, if, in the opinion of the whole world, a victory is to be judged of by its consequences, this will appear very inconsiderable. It is certainly, far from deserving to be compared to the victory of Zorndorf, or any other battle where the advantage was on our side. The consequences of this action are like the fruits of the surprise at Hochkirchen last year. By these advantages, which were rather in our favour, the enemy have only hitherto gained an opportunity of carrying devastation into the greatest part of our country. Let us return to the particulars that remain to be mentioned.

"After halting some days in the camp at Reitwein, the king led his army to Furtenwalde, and curled the enemy in such a manner, that, though they passed the Oder, they durst neither advance to Berlin, nor attempt any thing on their march, which they directed towards Lusatia, in order to be near Mareschal Daun. The king followed the Russians close, and encamped at Waldow, still at a small distance from their army. His majesty could not prevent an interview between the commanders in chief of the two armies at Guben, nor the succours which they thought proper to send to one another, nor could we hinder Soltikoff from drawing reinforcements from Poland; whereas we had received no other reinforcement but some cannon and battalions, seven squadrons, which General Kleist brought us from Swedish Pomerania. We had received neither recruits nor recovered men, the latter being left at Berlin to form a new corps against the Swedes; nor could we hope for

any support from Prince Henry, with whom the enemy had entirely cut off our communication. However unfortunate these circumstances might be, the king nevertheless maintained his camp at Waldow, opposite to the enemies' two armies, one of which alone was twice as strong as his majesty's. He even did not hesitate to detach to Saxony, first General Wunch with nine battalions, and as many squadrons, and afterwards General Fink, with twelve of the one, and eighteen of the other."

Notwithstanding this considerable diminution, and according to the Vienna Journal, Mareschal Daun had sent the Russians a fresh reinforcement of 20,000 men, the king continued to follow them in their march to Silesia, got there before them, and frustrated their design at Glogau; his majesty even offered them battle in many places on their march, with part only of that very army which fought at Cunnersdorff. According to exact lists, taken in the camp after the action, we lost in killed, prisoners, and deserters, 7485, including 123 officers; our wounded amounted to 11,119, of whom above 5000 recovered. Of all the generals, only M. Putkammer was killed on the spot.

The lieutenant-generals Itzenplitz, Thilsen, Fink, Wedel, Seidlitz, and the Prince of Wirtemberg, as also the major-generals Knoblauch, Klitzing, Itzenplitz, Spaen, and Platen, were only wounded.

The Russians very industriously concealed their loss, therefore it was never exactly known; but if we may judge from the discharges the Prussians made, it must at least equal that of their enemy.

Cunnersdorff is a village in Silesia, near Frankfort, on the Oder.

We must, for a moment, change the scene of action, to relate the circumstances of an event on the American continent, which at once filled the British nation with the highest satisfaction and regret. This was the conquest of Canada, accompanied with the loss of General Wolfe, which, as his virtues and talents were of the highest order, so his death was an object of the sincerest and most general regret. From the relation of the circumstances, and some account of the life of the deceased general, we shall return to the European continent to pursue the regular routine of the distinguished battles which led to the conclusion of the German war.

BATTLE OF ABRAHAM AND SIEGE OF QUEBEC.

The consequence which attended the siege of Niagara, as well as those upon Lake Champlain, in 1759, were very interesting; but the great and central operation to which all the rest tended, and to which event those were only subservient, was that against Quebec, the capital of Canada; and as this was to be the decisive stroke, it was proper that the greatest force should have been employed against it. If we reckon the maritime force, there is no doubt that we employed a greater number of men against Quebec than against the Champlain Forts; but the land forces, from some cause, fell much short of the number originally proposed; for they did not exceed 7000 men, regulars and provincials, though the original plan intended 9000 for that expedition, independent of the junction of those under General Amherst, whose assistance on the occasion was taken for granted. In this expedition General Wolfe commanded

manded the land forces. The fleet was under Admiral Saunders.

The whole embarkation arrived in the latter end of June, 1759, at the Isle of Orleans, a few leagues from Quebec, without any accident whatever, notwithstanding the ill-fame of the river St. Lawrence, and the reports of its dangerous navigation, probably spread for political purposes. They landed on the Isle of Orleans, which is formed by the branches of the river St. Lawrence. This island is about twenty miles in length, and seven or eight in breadth, highly cultivated, and affording every kind of refreshment to the soldiers and sailors.

As this island extends quite up to the bason of Quebec, it was necessary to possess it, in order to act against the town; for the most westerly point of this island advances toward an high point of land on the continent, called Point Levi. Both of these shut up the northern and the southern, which environ the Isle of Orleans, so that the harbour of Quebec appears to be a bason land-locked upon all sides. The possession of both these points were necessary, as they might be employed with great advantage against the town, or much to the annoyance of the besiegers; for whilst the enemy continued masters of those, it was impossible for a ship to be in the harbour of Quebec. When these posts were possessed, which was done with little difficulty, the harbour and town appeared full to the view, at once a tempting and discouraging sight.

Quebec has a fresh-water harbour, capable of containing 100 men of war of the line, 120 leagues distant from the sea. It lies on the most navigable river in the universe, which is navigable up to the Isle of Orleans,

that is 112 leagues from its mouth, is no where less than four or five leagues broad, but above that isle it narrows, so that before Quebec it is not a mile over. Hence this place got the name of Quebeis, or Quebec, which in the Algonquin tongue, signifies a straight.

The city was the seat of the governor and the intendant, and the supreme tribunals of justice, for all the French North America; it is also an episcopal see, and a place of considerable trade. It is large in extent, and elegant in many of its buildings, both public and private. It consists of an upper and lower town; the lower, which is narrow, being built upon a strand at the foot of a lofty rock, upon which the upper town stands. This rock extends itself, and continues with a bold and steep front, westward along the river St. Lawrence, for a considerable way. Another river from the N. W. called St. Charles, falls here into the former, washing the foot of the rock where Quebec stands; the point on which the town is built thus becomes a sort of peninsula, by the junction of these rivers; so that, whoever attacks Quebec, must either make his approaches above the town, and overcome the precipice which we have mentioned, or cross the river St. Charles, and attack it upon that side. The former of those methods must appear to a prudent commander wholly unadvisable, and the latter extremely difficult. If the former method should be attempted, they would have that dangerous precipice to overcome, defended by the enemy's whole force, which the attack would draw to this quarter. On the other hand, the country, from the river St. Lawrence to the northward, for more than five miles, is extremely rough, broken, and difficult, full of rivulets, gullies, and ravines, and so continues to the river Montmorenci, which flows by

by the foot of a steep and woody hill. On the side of the river St. Lawrence is a bank of sand of great extent, which prevents the approach of any considerable vessel.

In this advantageous situation was the French army, posted upon what was deemed the only accessible side of Quebec, along from the river St. Charles to that of Montmorenci, intrenched at every attackable spot, with the river and sand-bank above-mentioned in their front, and thick impenetrable woods in their rear. It is impossible to imagine a stronger post; a post at once more defensible in itself, or better calculated for succouring the city on which side soever it should be attacked.—Thus posted, they greatly exceeded in numbers the besiegers, being about 10,000 men, under an able, and hitherto a fortunate commander, M. de Montcalm, who, though superior in number to the English, resolved to risk nothing, and wisely relied on the natural strength of the country.

When Wolfe saw the situation of the town, the nature of the country, the number of the troops, and their position, though of a sanguine temper, and highly adventurous, he began to despair; but, however, another commander might have thought inaction in such circumstances justified to himself, or even to the world, by such strong appearances. Wolfe resolved to leave nothing unattempted; but amidst the choice of difficulties which lay before him, to pitch upon those where the valour of his troops might be employed with the best prospect of success.

As soon as he had secured the west point of the Isle of Orleans, and that of Levi, he erected batteries there of cannon and mortars, on the high ground, from the

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point of Levi which looks towards the town; these fired continually upon the place; Admiral Saunders was stationed below the north channel of the Isle of Orleans, opposite to Montmorenci; Admiral Holmes was stationed above the town, at once to distract the enemy's attention, and prevent their attempts against the batteries which played upon the town.

After this wise disposition was made of the fleet, General Wolfe caused the troops to be transported over the north channel of the river St. Lawrence to the north-east of Montmorenci, with the view of passing that river, and bringing the enemy to an engagement. Some heights, which commanded the enemy's intrenchments, and a ford above, and another below the falls, encouraging him to this attempt; but upon reconnoitering the ground, the opposite shore was found so steep and woody, that he could not hope to put his design in execution, which was by moving towards the enemy's flank to draw him to an engagement. To bring the French to an action was his single object. He had found that any attempts to assault the city would prove to no purpose, whilst the fleet could only batter the lower town, and must suffer greatly by the cannon and bombs of the upper, whilst they were employed in this ineffectual service; for after the reduction of the lower town, the passages to the upper were extremely steep, and moreover so well intrenched, that this advantage would prove little towards the reduction of the place.

The only point left therefore was, by every means, to entice or force the enemy to an engagement, and to this end no means were omitted, by sending detachments up the river, and by every appearance of a design to attack the town on that side. But the Marquis de

de Montcalm, in choosing his post, was well apprized of its importance. He knew sufficiently the nature of the country up the river, and he trusted to it; therefore he kept himself closely in his post, disposing his parties of savages, in which he was very strong, in such a manner, as to make any attempt upon him by surprize absolutely impossible. In the mean time, from Quebec, fire-ships and boats were let down the river to destroy the shipping, which, as they almost filled the channel, were greatly endangered. But by the extraordinary skill and vigilance of Admiral Saunders, every vessel of the kind that was sent against them was towed ashore without doing the least mischief.

The general finding that all his efforts to decoy the enemy to an engagement had proved unsuccessful, and, sensible that they desired nothing more than to act defensively, until the season itself should fight for them, and oblige the English to retire, he came at last, in spite of all difficulties, to the resolution of attacking them, in their intrenchments, on the side of Montmorenci. The place where the attack was to be made was chosen with great judgment, as the only place thereabouts in which the artillery might be brought into use; as there, and there only, the greatest part, or even the whole troops might act at once, and that there the retreat, in case of a repulse, was secure, for a certain time of the tide. Having determined upon the place where the attack was to be, which was at the mouth of the river Montmorenci; the best dispositions for it were made, both on the part of the admiral and the general, July the 30th. But, notwithstanding that the whole was conducted with equal vigour and prudence, it was totally defeated by one of those accidents which so frequently

quently interpose to the disgrace of human wisdom, and which demonstrate that she is far from being the sole arbitress of war.

The English grenadiers, who led the attack, had orders, immediately after their landing, to form themselves on the beach, but, instead of forming themselves as they were directed, from the hurry and noise of their landing, or from an ill-governed ardour, they rushed impetuously towards the enemy's intrenchments, in the utmost disorder and confusion, without waiting for the corps which were to sustain them, and join the attack. In this disorder they were met by a violent and steady fire from the intrenchments, by which they were thrown into great confusion, and obliged to shelter themselves behind a redoubt, which the French had abandoned on their approach.

The general perceiving that it was impossible for those grenadiers to form under so severe a fire, that the night drew on, a violent tempest was gathering, and the tide began to make out, saw clearly that he had nothing further left than to order a retreat, with as little disadvantage as possible. He, therefore, called off those troops, and having formed them behind Brigadier Monkton's corps, which was on the beach in excellent order, the whole repassed the river without molestation, the general exposing his person with that intrepidity which distinguished him both during the attack and the retreat.

The loss in this check was not inconsiderable, and the event, on the whole, was such as to discourage any further attempts on that side. They returned to the old measures. The general again sent some bodies above the town, and some men of war sailed up the stream

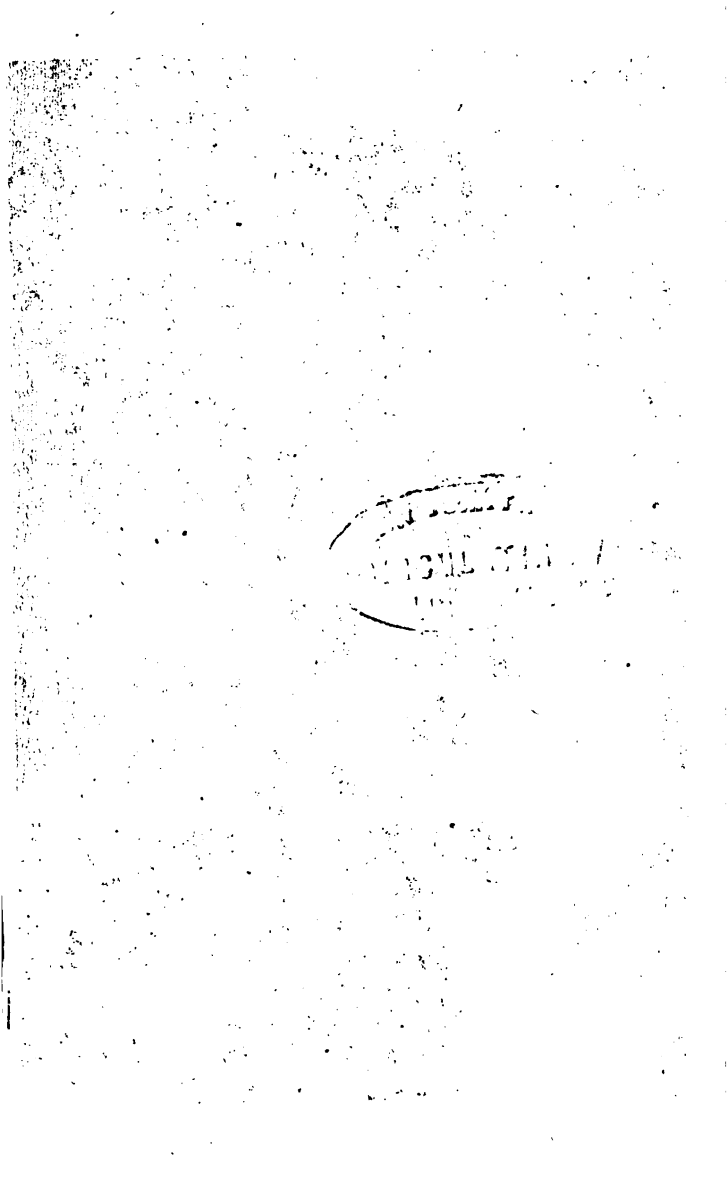
stream for more than twelve leagues. They received intelligence that the enemy had amassed some magazines of provisions in the interior country, and they proposed, by getting between them and the town, to draw the French army from their intrenchments to the long-desired engagement; but if they failed to compass this, they might, at least, destroy the ships of war which the enemy had in the river, and help to open a communication between them and General Amherst, on whom their expectations were fixed, and who, they flattered themselves, was on his march to their assistance.

But though they succeeded in destroying some of the enemy's magazines, there was nothing of great moment in this. They could not come near to the men of war; however, they received intelligence from some prisoners of the success of Sir William Johnson against Niagara; they learned likewise that the French had smoothed the difficulties in the way of General Amherst, by abandoning Crown-point and Ticonderago. But this intelligence, otherwise so pleasing, brought them no prospect of the approach of any assistance from that quarter. The season wasted apace. The general fell violently ill, consumed by care, watching, and a fatigue too great to be supported by a delicate constitution, and a body unequal to that vigorous and enterprising soul that it lodged. It was not enough for him to escape from so great an expedition uncondemned and unapplauded; to be pitied was, he thought, but a milder censure; he knew that no military conduct can shine unless it be gilded by success. His own high notions, the public hope, and the good success of other commanders, all turned inward upon him, oppressed his spirits, and converted disappointment into disease. As soon

soon as he had a little recovered, he dispatched an express with an account of his proceedings to England, written, indeed, in the style of despondency, but with such perspicuity, clearness, and elegance, as would have ranked him among our best writers, if his military exploits had not placed him among our greatest commanders.

He resolved, when he sent away his account, to continue the campaign to the last possible moment; after a deliberation with his officers, determined, that any further attempts at Montmorenci were to little purpose, and that their principal operations should be above the town, in order, if possible, to draw the enemy to an action. But the design of Wolfe was deeper and more particularly directed than it had been before. The camp at Montmorenci was broke up, and the troops were conveyed to the south-east of that river, and encamped at point Levi. The squadron under Admiral Holmes made movements up the river for several days successively, in order to draw the enemy's attention as far from the town as possible. This succeeded in some measure, for though it could not persuade the Marquis de Montcalm to quit his post, it induced him to detach M. de Bougainville with 1500 men to watch their movements, and to proceed along the western shore of that river, whilst the English army directed its march the same way on its eastern bank.

When General Wolfe saw that matters were ripe for action, he ordered the ships under Admiral Saunders to make a feint, as if they intended to attack the French in their intrenchments on the Beauport shore, below the town, and by their motions to give this feint all the appearance of a reality that it really could have. This disposition



disposition being made below the town, the general embarked his forces about one in the morning, and with Admiral Holmes's division went three leagues further up the river than the intended place of landing, in order to amuse the enemy and conceal his real design. Then he put them into boats, and fell down silently with the tide, unobserved by the French centinels posted along the shore, the rapidity of the current carried these boats a little below the intended place of attack. The ships followed them, and arrived just at the time which had been concerted to cover their landing. Considering the darkness of the night, and the rapidity of the current, this was a very critical operation, and it required excellent heads, both on the part of the marine and land service, to preserve a communication, and to prevent a discovery and confusion.

About one o'clock in the morning, September 12, 1759, the first embarkation consisting of four complete regiments; the light infantry, commanded by Colonel Howe, a detachment of highlanders and the American grenadiers fell gently down the river in flat-bottomed boats, under the conduct of the brigadiers, Monckton and Murray; but General Wolfe accompanied them, and was among the first who landed. No accident occurred except their overshooting the intended place of landing, owing to the rapidity of the tide. As these troops landed, the boats were sent off for the second embarkation, which was superintended by Brigadier Townshend; in the mean time Colonel Howe, with the light infantry and highlanders, ascended the woody precipices with admirable courage and activity, and dislodged a captain's guard, who defended a small intrenched narrow path, by which alone the other forces

could reach the summit; they then mounted without farther molestation; and General Wolf drew them up in order of battle as they arrived. The Marquis de Montcalm was thunderstruck at the intelligence, that the English had gained the heights of Abraham, and knowing the weakness of the city on that side, he was at no loss to determine that a general engagement was unavoidable. Advancing, therefore, with his whole force in such order of battle as shewed a design to flank the English forces on the left, Brigadier Townshend, with the regiment of Amherst, was sent to prevent it, by forming his corps *en potence*, presenting a double *front* o the enemy. The French were most advantageously posted, with bushes and corn-fields in their *front*, *lined* with 1500 of their best marksmen, who began the action with an irregular, galling fire; and this they kept up till it proved fatal to many of our brave officers, singled out by them for destruction.

About nine in the morning the enemy advanced to the charge with great order and resolution, but their fire was irregular and ineffectual; on the contrary, the British forces reserved their shot until the French had approached within forty yards of their line, when they poured a violent discharge upon them, and continued the fire with the greatest activity and success.

The gallant General Wolfe was stationed on the *right*, at the head of Bragg's regiment and the Louisbourg grenadiers, the post of the greatest honour; *for here* the attack was most violent. As he stood dauntless and conspicuous in the front of the line, he had *been* aimed at by the enemy's marksmen, and received a wound in his head; but neither pain nor danger had any effect to make him retire from his station; having wrapped

GENERAL WOLFE.

wrapped a handkerchief round his head, he continued giving orders without the least emotion; soon after, he received a ball in his belly, this also he dissembled, and advanced at the head of the grenadiers, with their bayonets fixed, when another ball, most probably from the same hand, pierced the breast of this intrepid hero, who fell in the arms of victory, just as the enemy gave way, and at the very instant when every separate regiment of the British army seemed to exert itself for the honour of its own corps. The wounded general was carried to a small distance in the rear, where, roused from fainting fits, in the agonies of death by the loud cries of "They run! they run!" he with great eagerness enquired, "Who runs?" and being told the French, and that they were defeated, he added, in a faltering voice, "Then I thank God, I die contented!" and almost instantly expired. Much about the same time Brigadier-General Monckton, the second in command at the head of the regiment of Lascelles, fell; when the command devolved on Brigadier-General Townshend, who had the honour of completing the victory.

Never was a battle fought which did more honour to the officers or even to the private men, of both sides, than this. The highest encomiums were bestowed on, and justly merited by the Marquis de Montcalm, the French general, who was mortally wounded; and who distinguished himself in his last moments by an affectionate regard for his countrymen, in writing a letter to General Townshend, to recommend the French prisoners "to that generous humanity by which the British nation has always been distinguished." He died in Quebec a few days after the battle. His second in command was left wounded in the field, and was con-

veyed from thence on board an English ship, where he expired the next day. The death of Montcalm, which was an insupportable loss to France, in America, threw the Canadians into the utmost consternation; confusion prevailed in all their councils held at Quebec, and, seeing themselves invested by the British fleet, which with the troops were preparing, with all vigour, for a siege, they surrendered the city of Quebec upon terms of honour to the garrison, and advantage to the inhabitants, who were preserved in the free exercise of their religion, and the possession of their civil rights until a general peace decided their future condition.

This capitulation is a circumstance which does the greatest honour to the judgment of General Townshend, and Admiral Saunders, for the place was not yet completely invested; the enemy were on the point of receiving a strong reinforcement from Montreal; and M. de Bougainville at the head of 800 fresh men, with a convoy of provisions, were almost at the gates of the town on the day of surrender. A new army was likewise assembling in the neighbourhood, with which the city continued to have a free communication on one side after the battle; and the British troops in a little time, the season being far advanced, must have been obliged to desist from their operations from the severity of the weather, and even to have retired with their fleet before the approach of winter.

A garrison of 5000 men, under General Murray, were put into the place, with a supply of provisions and ammunition for the winter. The fleet sailed to England soon after, fearing lest the setting in of the frost should lock them up in the river St. Laurence.

Thus the capital of French America was surrendered to

to the English, after a most severe campaign of three months; and, perhaps, if the whole be considered, there never was an enterprize of such difficulty carried on with a more gallant perseverance, or accomplished with more vigour and ability. A city strong in situation and fortifications was to be attacked. An army, greatly superior in numbers to the besiegers, was posted under the walls of that city, in an impregnable situation. That army was to be forced to battle against the inclination of a wise and cautious commander. A theatre of more than five leagues was to be filled, and the operations of that extent to be carried on in the eye of the superior army, by less than 7000 men. In this contest, with so many difficulties, one may say with nature itself, the genius of the commander shewed itself superior to every thing. All the dispositions to that daring attempt near Sillery, on the heights of Abraham, which at last drew Montcalm from his intrenchments, were so many master-pieces in the art of war. But it is certain that these things, notwithstanding the extraordinary abilities of the general, could never have been compassed, had not the marine co-operated with an unanimity, diligence, and skill, which never could have taken place, but from that perfect love to their country, that animated all those who were concerned in this expedition. Here was no murmuring or discontent, nor absurd jealousy; no mean competition between the land and sea service, but the most zealous endeavours to second each other's efforts, and the most generous inclinations on each side to give a due praise to their mutual services.

When the news of this decisive action arrived in England, it may be conceived, but it is very difficult to

describe, the various emotions with which every one was effected. But two days before this came, was received the express which General Wolfe had sent off after the affair at Montmorenci. When the general doubted, the public thought they had reason to despair. But whilst this gloom was fresh, and in the midst of the general despondency, a second express arrives, and brings all at once an account of the victory, the taking of Quebec, and the death of General Wolfe. The effect of such joyful news, immediately on such a dejection, and the mixture of grief and pity which attended the public congratulations and applauses, was very singular and affecting. The sort of mourning *triumph* which manifested itself on the occasion, did equal honour to the memory of the general, and to the humanity of his country.

The English nation, which never suffers any public service to go unrewarded, proceeded to honour the merits of the living and the dead. The minister himself made a motion for this purpose in the House of Commons, and all the force of eloquence was displayed, in setting off these services in their proper light. *Besides* a magnificent monument being voted for the deceased general in Westminster Abbey; the living generals and admirals received the greatest honours—the thanks of their country by their repesentatives.

It is not known with certainty in what manner the French disposed of the remainder of their army after the battle of Abraham, or Quebec. It is probable that they retired towards Montreal and Trois Rivieres, the only places of any consequence which they had left in Canada. In order to deprive them of subsistence in any attempt they might be induced to make towards the recovery

covery of Quebec in the winter, the country all along the river was laid waste for a very considerable extent; a measure, which for the sake of humanity we could have wished not to have been found necessary.

Whilst the operations were thus successfully carried on, on the river St. Laurence, General Amherst was not wanting in his endeavours on the side of Lake Champlain. Though the retreat of the French from Crown Point and Ticonderago, had left him entirely master of Lake George, he found that the command of Lake Champlain, was still an object of some difficulty. M. Bourlemaque, who commanded in that part, had retired to the Isle de Noix, at the bottom of the lake, where he had 3500 men strongly intrenched. He had likewise four stout-armed sloops, by which he could easily defeat any attempts by boats.

General Amherst found it necessary to attain a naval superiority upon the Champlain, before he could hope to push his operations any further; but this was a work of so much time, that it was absolutely impossible to attain the great end of the campaign, the communication with General Wolfe, who was left in the manner we have described, to the exertion of his own single strength. The naval preparations were not perfectly accomplished before the 10th of October. They consisted of a great radeaux eighty-four feet in length and twenty in breadth, which carried six twenty-four pounders; the rest consisted of a brigantine and a sloop.

Covered by these, the army was embarked in boats, October the 11th, in a most excellent disposition, and proceeded a considerable way upon the lake; but as the season was far advanced, and the weather growing cold and tempestuous, he judged it highly dangerous to

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venture his troops much upon the water in open batteaux; for the waves ran as high on this lake as at sea in a gale of wind. Besides he could not hope at this advanced season, to act at such a distance as the Isle de Noix, with any effect; he therefore wisely postponed his operation on that side till another year, and contented himself for the present with the efforts of his little marine, which exerted itself with great activity. They blocked up two of the enemy's strongest vessels in a bay; but the French abandoned them in the night of October the 15th, and sunk them in deep water, the crews making their escape. These they were in hopes to weigh up. The French appearing no where to oppose them, the armed sloops returned to Crown Point soon after the troops, which were disposed in winter quarters.

We proceed, in compliance with our plan, to state the facts and dates of which we have arrived at the knowledge respecting the young and accomplished general, whose death we have just regretted—of him whom the muses still hold in their remembrance, as well as the never-fading productions of an art which, by multiplying copies, tends no less than that of Printing, to perpetuate the memory of all that is great and worthy.

JAMES, the son of Lieut.-General Edward WOLFE, was born at Westerham, in the county of Kent, January 11, 1726; a village which has been remarked for its politeness and intelligence, and which among other adornments, has the honour of giving birth to the justly-celebrated Dr. Samuel Hoadly. His mother, of what family we cannot ascertain, was an elegant, well-informed woman, and to her there is little doubt but that she owed the principal part of his education. He was early

through the garrison, having the train of artillery in the van, and the invalids in the rear, both with their arms reversed. Their drums beat the dead march, minute guns were fired from the platform, and the colours half struck on the fort, while the bells of the town were tolled muffled, forming a dreadful concert with the whole. At the landport gates it departed alone for London, and on the 20th, at night, was privately deposited in the church of Greenwich. Vast crowds of the populace assembled wherever it passed, with a decent solemnity highly complimentary to the character of the British nation.

A mingled testimony of joy and sorrow was exhibited in the metropolis and principal towns on the occasion, but the delicate respect of the village of Westerham, in which the mother of General Wolfe remained, forbade the smallest marks of joy that should remind her of the loss she had sustained in their gain. A solemn silence prevailed there amid the tumult of surrounding guns and illuminations, nor could the meanest peasant while he rejoiced in his country's conquest suppress the generous sentiment.

A monument to his memory, executed by Wilton, at the expence of the nation, was erected in Westminster Abbey, and Mr. West painted a fine historical picture of the battle, representing the expiring general listening to the sounds of victory, from which a plate was beautifully engraved by Woollet.

The following letter to a friend on a subject of importance to the military character is attributed to General Wolfe in a recent public journal.

"You cannot find me a more agreeable employment than to serve or oblige you, and I wish with all my heart tha-

that my inclinations and abilities were of equal force. I don't recollect what it was I recommended to Mr. ——'s nephew, it might be the Compte de Turpin's book, which was certainly worth looking into, as it contains a good deal of plain practice. Your brother, no doubt, is master of the Latin and French languages, and has some knowledge of the mathematics. Without the last he can never become acquainted with one considerable branch of our business, the construction of fortifications, and the attack and defence of places; I would advise him by all means to give up a year or two of his time, now while he is young, if he has not already done it, to the study of the mathematics, because it will greatly facilitate his progress in military matters. As to the books which are fittest for his purpose he may begin with the King of Prussia's regulations for his horse and foot, where the economy and good order of the army in the lower branches is extremely correct. Then there are the Memoirs of the Marquis de Santa Cruz, Ferquiere, Montecuculi; Folard's Commentaries upon Polybius; the Projet de Tactique, ou la Phalange, couplée et doublée; L'Attaque et la Defense des Places, par le Mars. de Vaubon; Les Memoirs de Goulon, L'Ingenieur de Campagne, par St. Remi, for all that concerns artillery; of the ancients, Vegetius, Cæsar, Thucydides, Xenophon's Life of Cyrus, and the retreat of the 10,000 Greeks. I don't mention Polybius, because the Commentary and History generally go together of later days. Davila, Guicciardini, Strada, the Memoirs of Duc de Sully.

"There is abundance of military knowledge to be picked out of the lives of Gustavus Adolphus and Charles XII. Kings of Sweden; also of Zisca the Bohemian;

hemian; and if a tolerable account could be got of the exploits of Scanderbeg, it would be inestimable; for he excels all the officers, ancient and modern, in the conduct of a small defensive army. I met with him in the Turkish history, but no where else. The life of Sectorius contains many fine things this way; there is a book lately published, that I have heard commended, "L'Art de la Guerre par Pratique;" I suppose it is collected from all the best authors that treat of war; and there is a little volume, entitled "De la Petite Guerre," that your brother should take in his pocket, when he goes upon duties and detachments. The Marshal de Puysegur's book too, is in esteem. I believe Mr. —— will think this catalogue long enough; and if he has patience to read, and a desire to apply, as I am persuaded he has, the knowledge contained in them, there is wherewithal to make him a considerable person in his profession, and of course very useful and serviceable to his country.

"In general, the lives of all great commanders, and all good historians of warlike nations, will be very instructive, and lead him naturally to imitate what he must necessarily approve of. In these days of scarcity, and in these unlucky times, it must be wished that all our young soldiers of birth and education would peruse them."

Returning to our regular progress on the European continent, we arrive at

THE BATTLE OF PRETSCH.

Prince Henry of Prussia having taken up his camp at Strehla, on the 24th of October, 1759, General Rebentish was detached by his highness to Duben, a small

town upon the Mulda, as well in order to observe the motions of the enemy from Eullenberg to Leipsic, as to watch the rear of our camp, in case the enemy should attempt to get behind, and cut off their communication with Wittemberg. Intelligence was received in the afternoon of the 25th, that the Austrians had pushed a strong party through the woods behind our right, and got possession of Voglesang, some other villages, and the small town of Dommitsch, by which means our camp was entirely surrounded, having the Elbe on the left, and the Austrian posts on the other three sides, Belgoun, Schuldau, Rochwitz, and Dommitsch, at which last place Duc D'Aremberg commanded a body of about 16,000 men. His royal highness thereupon ordered General Fink's corps, which was in the rear of our camp, to march towards Voglesang, from whence the Austrians were driven after a smart cannonade of several hours, and some firing of small arms; and General Fink was left in that post.

On the 26th his royal highness, who found it impracticable to dislodge the enemy from Dommitsch, without great loss of men, detached in the evening General Wunsch, with six battalions and some cavalry, across the Elbe to Wittenberg, where he was to be joined to General Rebentish's corps, which had retired from that place to Duben upon the approach of the Austrians.

On the 27th and 28th, some Prussian generals were sent to reconnoitre, and to make an appearance as if his royal highness intended an attack on the enemy's right, in order to draw M. Daun's principal attention to that quarter.

Early in the morning of the 29th, Duc D'Aremberg decamped from Dommitsch, in order to occupy the heights

heights near Pretsch, a town in Saxony; but upon perceiving the van of General Wunsch's corps, which was marching that way, immediately formed in order of battle. General Wunsch, whose whole force, joined to General Rebentish's, did not exceed 5000 men, posted himself with some dragoons and hussars, on the rising grounds, and waited till the arrival of his infantry with the artillery. He then began to cannonade the Austrian corps, which, during all this time never attacked, or attempted to dislodge him. The enemy was thrown into confusion, and suffered greatly by the cannonade, which lasted almost the whole day; and his royal highness took 1200 prisoners, among whom were Lieutenant-General Gemming, who commanded the rear-guard, and twenty officers of lesser note. The Austrians likewise lost in the action some cannon, a great part of their tents, and a very large quantity of baggage.

His royal highness had joined General Fink's corps at Voglesang, about eight o'clock the same morning, in consequence of a plan that had been concerted upon. Duc D'Aremberg's detachment, which was to have been made by General Fink's corps in front, while another body was to endeavour to intercept their retreat, if they attempted it through the woods; but the Austrians had decamped from Dommitsch, and instead of pursuing their first design of occupying Pretsch, had, upon meeting General Wunsch's corps, resolved to march to Duben, and there to pass the Mulda.

General Fink marched on the 30th to Duben, where more prisoners were taken, so that the whole number was said to amount to 1500. The loss on the side of the Prussians was very inconsiderable. General Fink

could follow the enemy no farther on account of a strong reinforcement which was sent them.

On the 16th of November, Prince Henry being in danger of having his communication with Torgau cut off, removed to a strong camp, near Stuhla, by which, and the river Elbe, his left flank was covered; his right was protected by a wood; and an impassable morass stretched along great part of his front: in this advantageous position he remained till the 10th of December.

Pretsch is a town in Saxony, of little other real importance than that which has been attached to it by this affair.

BATTLE OF MAXEN.

The king of Prussia, after his defeat by the Russians, at Cunnersdorf, returned to Saxony, on which the army of the empire retired, and Mareschal Daun, notwithstanding his many boasted advantages, fell back towards Dresden, at the appearance of a defeated army. All the king of Prussia's posts were unmolested, and after all his losses, and all his necessary detachments, he *still* saw himself at the head of a gallant army of 60,000 men, ready to execute the most desperate orders in defiance of the extreme cold.

It is true that M. Daun was superior to him in numbers, and yet more so in situation; he could at any time take possession of the famous camp at Pima, where he could not be attacked with any prospect of success; but then the freezing of the Elbe, the snow on the mountains, which divide Bohemia from Saxony, and the continual molestations which might be expected from

from the Prussian parties, made this situation as dangerous in some respects as it was desirable in others.

It was the opinion of many, that these advantages on the side of the king of Prussia, well pursued, without aiming at more, would in a short time have obliged M. Daun to relinquish his strong post, and to retire into Bohemia, abandoning Dresden, and with it all the fruits of a victorious campaign. But the king possessed by an idea of the ill situation of the Austrians, thought that advantages of greater moment, and more decisive, might be drawn from it. He knew that the passes into Bohemia were so difficult, that by some posts properly chosen and strongly guarded, the subsistence of the Austrians might be made impracticable, and that even their retreat rendered so difficult, that Mareschal Daun would find himself compelled to fight at a disadvantage, and to put to the hazard of the field all that his caution and prudence had been so long and painfully procuring.

Upon this plan, the king having obliged M. Daun to retreat as far as Planen, advanced himself as far as Kesseldorf, and ordered General Fink, with a very strong corps, to turn the Austrians, and seize the defiles of Maxen and Ottendorf, through which alone it seemed possible for the Austrians to communicate with Bohemia. This was so successfully executed, that there appeared no doubt that the king had effectually secured one of his principal objects, and had placed Daun between two fires.

Whilst the Prussians enjoyed this security, M. Daun, who was aware of their design, had so occupied all the eminences about this rough and dangerous place, and all the passes into it, that the Prussians were hardly attacked when their fate seemed inevitable. It is proba-

ble that they had got too far into these defiles, and had not taken proper measures to secure a retreat, or any sort of communication with the grand army. They became too late sensible of their situation, and they made, for a whole day, the most intrepid efforts to disengage themselves from it, but they were foiled in every attempt, with considerable loss of men, and most of their artillery.

Night put a stop to the engagement. The Austrians employed it effectually to entangle the Prussians, by guarding with double strength and vigilance, every avenue through which it was possible for them to escape. So that when the morning appeared (Nov. the 26th, 1759) they saw the hills covered upon every side with great bodies of their enemies, and every defile presented a wall of bayonets, through which it was impossible to penetrate. Thus galled with the losses of the preceding day, in which it is said that they had exhausted almost all their ammunition, stripped of the greatest part of their cannon, surrounded by the enemy on all quarters, no resource, no prospect of relief appearing, the army lost all hope and all spirit. To make any efforts in this condition, General Fink thought would only be to throw away, unprofitably, the lives of many brave men, which might be reserved for a more hopeful occasion. He, therefore, notwithstanding the known rigour of his master, the apparent shame of the thing, and the thousand circumstances of embarrassment that must have arisen to a man of honour at such a juncture, came to a resolution of surrendering the whole army prisoners of war. Nineteen battalions and 35 squadrons, composing near 20,000 men by the Austrian account, above 12,000

by the Prussian confession, 64 pieces of cannon, many standards and colours, were taken on this occasion.

It was unquestionably the greatest blow which the Prussians had felt from the beginning of the war, considering the critical time, the numbers taken, and the loss of reputation which arose from the manner in which they were taken. It is no wonder that such an extraordinary advantage, thus cheaply obtained, should greatly have elevated the friends of the House of Austria. They had turned the tables upon the Prussians, and had caught their enemy in the very trap which they laid, as they thought, with such address for them. They had now received a full indemnification for the capture of that Saxon army, which had surrendered in much the same manner, and very near this place, in the year 1759.

The king of Prussia had no time to recover from this stroke, under which he was yet staggering, when he received another blow, and a severe one. General Durecke was posted at the right of the Elbe, opposite to Missen, but on the approach of a large body of Austrians (December 24, 1759) they prepared to retreat over the river into that place, into which they thought their retreat secure; but having been obliged by a hard frost to withdraw their bridge of boats, a thaw supervening, when they attempted to lay a bridge of pontoons, so many great fragments of ice floated in the river, that they found it impracticable; they were therefore under the necessity of passing their army over in boats. Whilst they struggled with these difficulties, their rear guard was attacked by the Austrians with great fury, and all the men that composed it, together with the general, were killed or made prisoners. The

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loss of the Prussians on this occasion, is said to have been 3000 killed and taken; and this second surprise brought a new discredit as well as a great detriment to the Prussian arms.

Mareschal Daun was not so carried away with this flood of success, as to depart in the least degree from his usual cautious management. Two advantages were now obtained, which, with a few efforts, might be improved to the entire destruction of the King of Prussia; at least, many generals would have thought so. But M. Daun thought, that the same conduct, which, with no risk, had reduced the king so low, was the most likely, if pursued, to bring on his entire ruin. He resolved to give that monarch no sort of chance to recover his fortune. Daun, after the two great victories of the Russians, his allies, and after the two great victories he had himself newly obtained, retired behind Dresden; and, as if he had been beaten as often as he was victorious, he took refuge in the impregnable camp at Pirna, having so disposed matters, that the King of Prussia, now too weak to send out any great detachments, could not prevent his communication with Bohemia.

Maxen is a small village, situated on the road between Saxony and Bohemia, near Dippoldswald.

Leaving the two armies for a moment in their respective situations, we turn to another quarter of the same seat of war.

BATTLE

BATTLE OF FULDA.

On the 28th of November, 1759, early in the morning, the hereditary Prince of Brunswick and Prince Charles of Bevern, set out from Marburgh with the following regiments, viz. De Bosch, Hanoverian dragoons, Prince William and Prince Frederic of Hesse cavalry, two battalions of the regiment of guards, and two of Imhoff's of Brunswick; the regiment of grenadiers, Hessians, and that of Blunsbach; 100 hunters of Trimbach's corps, one squadron of white, and one of black hussars. This corps having left their baggage behind, marched the same day to Kildorf and Heimershausen, and the following, being the 29th, to Angersbach; their vanguard having in their way gallantly repulsed a body of the enemy, consisting of the volunteers of Nassau. The two battalions of the regiment of guards, and those of the regiment of Imhoff, and Bosch's regiment of dragoons, lay that night at Angersbach. Prince Charles with the other regiments, at Lanterbach. The hussars and the volunteers of Trimbach, were posted further off, at Sanderhausen, and the hereditary prince passed the whole night at the advanced post of the hussars.

At one o'clock in the morning of the 30th, the whole corps was again put in motion, and marched directly towards Fulda. As the enemy did not in the least expect this visit, no troops were met on the road. At a little distance from Fulda, the hereditary prince having ordered the whole corps to be drawn together, behind the nearest height, and the hussars to march forward, his serene highness went in person to reconnoitre, almost up to the gates of the town.

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The country about Fulda forms a plain of tolerably even ground, the right of which is watered by a river of the same name, the fields on this side from a long hollow way, on one side of which the Wirtemberg troops had ranged themselves in small bodies, on separate spots of ground, the hussars and yellow dragoons drew up in front of those troops so irregularly posted.

In the meantime, his serene highness's troops, both horse and foot, went round the hill, and proceeded in their march, without interruption, to the side of the hollow way in such a manner, that they were soon enabled to take post upon the flank of the regiments of Wirtemberg, who by degrees retreated into the town. The cannons were firing upon them the whole time they were filing off.

The enemy's infantry having made some show of forming themselves in the square of the town, some howitzers were played upon them, to drive them from thence.

The whole corps of the enemy having then passed through the town, the hussars and yellow dragoons, led on by the hereditary Prince of Brunswick with the Hessian grenadiers, and Bosch's regiment, passed it likewise in the pursuit, whilst Prince Charles of Bevern went round the outside of it, and passed the river over the bridge.

The enemy in their retreat shut all the gates of the town after them; but they were forced open by our cannon. Our troops found on the side of the town the enemy's three battalions of grenadiers, and the regiment of Wernich, formed again in order of battle, as if with an intention of defending themselves; but the rest of the troops of Wirtemberg had drawn towards the left, and retired as fast as possible.

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The hereditary prince ordered immediately all the hussars, and Bosch's regiment of dragoons, to advance upon the said four battalions, and in the meantime his serene highness, with the rest of the troops, filed off along the heights of the ranks, till he found himself able to gain the enemy's flank. It was then we broke in upon them; and though they fired in the best manner they could, there were but six killed and ten wounded on our side. Count Platen Caplain was killed in the first onset by a cannon-ball. A considerable number of the enemy was cut to pieces, and the rest having thrown down their arms, were made prisoners of war, together with all their officers. We took from them two pieces of cannon, two pair of colours, and their baggage.

The next day, the 1st of December, 910 prisoners were sent to Hirschfield, under an escort commanded by Major Marchal. The rest of the four battalions were either killed or very much wounded. Our hussars had been in pursuit of those of the enemy, who went off before the action, and had taken the greatest part of their baggage, carriages, waggons, &c.

The Duke of Wirtemberg was in person with his corps, which he had just then drawn up for a feu de joye, so that these regiments were in their best cloathing. The duke had invited all the ladies in the town of Fulda to his table, and to a ball, which he intended to have given that very day. But upon the unexpected news of the hereditary prince of Brunswick's being at the gates of the town with his hussars, the duke thought proper to get off. That part of his cavalry which was not taken, was obliged to decamp in haste with the rest of his infantry, and file off in the presence of the enemy, on the other side of Fulda; one of these regiments

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of cavalry, the grenadiers, and the regiment of Wernich, were commanded in a very disorderly manner, which enabled their opponents to cut them so easily to pieces with so little loss.

Fulda is a town in Germany, situated in the circle of the upper Rhine.

The afflicting campaign of the year 1759, on the European continent, affording little further of even common interest, we shall return to the American scenery, where our sorrows have been lately mingled with the actions and death of the amiable and immortal Wolfe.

THE SIEGE OF QUEBEC.

Major-general Murray was left, after the battle of Abraham, to command the garrison of Quebec, amounting to about 6000 men, and a strong squadron of ships was stationed at Halifax, in Nova Scotia, under the direction of Lord Colvil, an able and experienced officer, who had directions to visit Quebec in the beginning of the summer of 1760, as soon as the river St. Laurence should be navigable; and General Amherst, the commander-in-chief of the forces in America, *wintered in* New York, that he might be at hand to assemble his troops in the spring, and recommence his operations for the entire reduction of Canada. General Murray neglected no step that could be taken by the most vigilant officer, for maintaining the important conquest of Quebec, and subduing all Lower Canada; the inhabitants of which actually submitted, and took the oath of allegiance to the king of Great Britain. The garrison, however, within the walls of Quebec, suffered greatly from the excessive cold in the winter, and the want of vegetables

vegetables and fresh provisions, insomuch, that, before the end of April, 1000 soldiers were dead of the scurvy, and twice that number rendered unfit for service. Such was the situation of the garrison, when Governor Murray received undoubted intelligence, that the French commander, the Chevalier de Louis, was employed in assembling his army, which had been cantoned in the neighbourhood of Montreal: that from the inhabitants of the country, he had completed his eight battalions, regimented forty companies of the troupes-de-colonie, and determined to undertake the city of Quebec, whenever the river St. Laurence should be clear of ice, that he could use his four frigates, and other vessels, by means of which he was entirely master of the river.

The brigadier, considering the city of Quebec as no other than a strong cantonment, had projected a plan of defence, by extending lines, and intrenching his troops on the heights of Abraham, which, at the distance of 800 paces, entirely command the ramparts of the city and might have been defended by a small force against a formidable army. Fascines, and every other necessary for this work, had been provided in the month of April; the men were set to work upon the projected lines, but the earth was so hardened by the frost, that it was found impracticable to proceed. Being informed, that on the night of the 26th the enemy had landed at Point au Tremble, to the number of 10,000 men, with 500 savages, he ordered all the bridges over the river Cagrouge to be broke down, secured the landing-place at Sillery and the Faulon, and next day marching in person, with a strong detachment and two field-pieces, took possession of an advantageous situation, and thus defeated the scheme which the French commander had

laid for cutting off the posts which the English had established. These being all withdrawn, the brigadier that same afternoon marched back to Quebec, with little or no loss, although his rear was harassed by the enemy. Here he formed a resolution, which has been censured by some critics in war, as a measure which favoured more of youthful impatience, and overboiling courage, than of the military discretion, which ought to distinguish a commander in such a delicate situation; but it is more easy to censure with an appearance of reason, than to act in such circumstances with any certainty of success. Mr. Murray, in his letter to the secretary of state, declared, that, although the enemy were greatly superior in number, yet, when he considered that the English forces were habituated to victory, that they were provided with a fine train of field artillery, that, in shutting them at once within the walls, he should have risked his whole stake, on the single chance of defending a wretched fortification; a chance which could be much lessened by an action in the field, though such an action would double the chance of success; for these reasons he determined to hazard a battle; should the event prove unprosperous, he resolved to hold out the place to the *last* extremity; then to retreat to the Isle of Orleans, or Coudres, with the remainder of the garrison, and there wait for a reinforcement. In pursuance of these resolutions, he gave the necessary orders over night, and on the 28th day of April, at half an hour past six in the morning, marched out with his little army of 3000 men, which he formed on the heights in order of battle. The right brigades, commanded by Colonel Burton, consisted of the regiments of Amherst, Anstruther, Webb, and the second battalion of loyal Americans; the left, under

der Colonel Frazer, was formed of the regiments of Kennedy, Lascelles, Townshend, and the Highlanders. Otway's regiment, and the third battalion of loyal Americans, constituted the corps de reserve, Major Dalling's corps of light infantry covered the right flank; the left was secured by Captain Huzzen's company of rangers, and 100 volunteers, under the command of Colonel Donald Macdonald; and each battalion was supplied with two field-pieces. Brigadier Murray having reconnoitred the enemy, perceived their van had taken possession of the rising grounds, about three quarters of a mile in his front, but that their army was on their march in one column. Thinking this was the critical moment to attack them before they were formed, he advanced towards them with equal order and expedition. They were soon driven from the heights, though not without a warm dispute, during which the body of their army formed. Their van consisted of ten companies of grenadiers, two of volunteers, and 400 savages; eight battalions formed in four columns, with some bodies of Canadians in the intervals, constituted their main body. Their rear was composed of two battalions, and some Canadians in the flanks; and 2000 Canadians formed the reserve. Their whole army amounted to upwards of 12,000 men. Major Dalling, with great gallantry, dispossessed the grenadiers of a house and wind-mill which they occupied, in order to cover their left flank; and in this attack, the major and some of his officers fell: nevertheless, the light infantry pursued the fugitives to a corps which was formed to sustain them; there the pursuers halted, and dispersed along the front of the right; a circumstance which prevented that wing from taking advantage of the first impression they had made on the left of the

enemy. The light infantry being ordered to regain the bank, were, in attempting this motion, furiously charged, and thrown into disorder: then they retired to the rear in such a shattered condition, that they could never again be brought up during the whole action. Otway's regiment was instantly ordered to advance from the body of reserve, and sustain the right wing, which the enemy twice in vain attempted to penetrate. Meanwhile the left brigade of the British forces did not remain inactive: they had dispossessed the French of two redoubts, and sustained with undaunted resolution the whole force of the enemy's right, until they were fairly fought down, overpowered by numbers, and reduced to a handful, notwithstanding the assistance they received from the third battalion of loyal Americans, which had been stationed with the body of reserve, as well as from Kennedy's regiment, posted in the centre. The French attacked with great impetuosity; and, at length, a fresh column of the regiment de Rous-illon penetrating the left wing of the British army, it gave way; the disorder was soon communicated to the right, so that after a very obstinate dispute, which lasted an hour and three quarters, brigadier Murray was obliged to quit the field, with the loss of 100 men, killed or wounded, and the greater part of his artillery. The enemy lost twice the number of men, and reaped no essential advantage from their victory.

Mr. Murray, far from being dispirited by his defeat, no sooner retired within the walls of Quebec, than he resolved to prosecute the fortifications of the place, which had been interrupted by the severity of the winter; and the soldiers exerted themselves with incredible alacrity, not only in labouring at the works, but also

also in the defence of the town, before which the enemy had opened trenches on the very evening of the battle. Three ships anchored at the Faulon, below the camp; and for several days they were employed in landing their cannon, mortars, and ammunition. Meanwhile they worked incessantly at their trenches before the town; and on the 11th day of May, opened one bomb battery, and three batteries of cannon. Brigadier Murray made the necessary dispositions to defend the place to the last extremity; he raised two covaliers, contrived some out-works, and planted the ramparts with 132 pieces of artillery, dragged thither mostly by the soldiery. Though the enemy cannonaded the place with great vivacity the first day, their fire soon slackened, and their batteries were, in a manner, soon silenced by the superior fire of the garrison; nevertheless, Quebec would in all probability have reverted to its former owners, had a French fleet from Europe got the start of an English squadron in sailing up the river.

Lord Colville had sailed from Halifax with the fleet under his command, on the 22d day of April, but was retarded in his passage by thick fogs, contrary winds, and great shoals of ice floating down the river. Commodore Swanton, who had sailed from England with a small reinforcement, arrived about the beginning of May at the Isle of Beck, in the river St. Laurence, where, with two ships, he purposed to wait for the rest of the squadron, which had separated from him in the passage; but one of these, the Lowestoffe, commanded by Captain Deane, had entered the harbour of Quebec on the 9th day of May, and communicated to the governor the joyful news, that the squadron was arrived in the river. Commodore Swanton no sooner received in-

timation that Quebec was besieged, than he sailed up the river with all possible expedition, and on the 15th, in the evening, anchored above Point Levi. The brigadier expressing an earnest desire, that the French squadron above the town might be removed, the commodore ordered Captain Schomberg, of the Diana, and Captain Deane, of the Lowestoffe, to slip their cables early next morning, and attack the enemy's fleet, consisting of two frigates, two armed ships, and a great number of smaller vessels. They were no sooner in motion, than the French ships fled in the utmost disorder. One of their frigates was driven upon the rocks above Cape Diamond; the other ran ashore, and was burnt at Point au Tremble, about ten leagues above the town; and all the other vessels were taken or destroyed.

The enemy were so confounded and dispirited by this disaster, and the certain information that a strong English fleet was already in the river St. Laurence, that in the following night they raised the siege of Quebec, and retreated with great precipitation, leaving their provisions, implements, and artillery, to Governor Murray, who had intended to make a vigorous sally in the morning, and attempt to penetrate into the camp of the besiegers, which, from the information of prisoners and deserters, he conceived to be a very practicable scheme. For this purpose he had selected a body of troops, who were already under arms, when a lieutenant, whom he had sent out with a detachment to amuse the enemy, came and assured him that their trenches were abandoned. He instantly marched out of Quebec at the head of his forces, in hopes of overtaking and making some impression on their rear, that he might have ample re-

venge for his late discomfiture; but they had passed the river Capronge before he could come up with their army; however, he took some prisoners, and a great quantity of baggage, including their tents, stores, magazines of provision and ammunition, with 34 pieces of battering cannon, ten field-pieces, six mortars, four petards, a great number of scaling-ladders, intrenching tools, and every implement for a siege. They retired to Jaques Quartier, where their ammunition began to fail, and they were abandoned by a great part of the Canadians; so that they resigned all hopes of succeeding against Quebec, and began to take measures for the preservation of Montreal, against which the force under General Amherst was directed.

The campaign of 1760, in Germany, seemed to linger in its commencement, from the effects of the two last preceding it, till some successes on the part of Prussia, (whose favourite, General Ziethen, was now come into notice) seem to have given more spirit to the operations on both sides.

BATTLE OF LANDSHUT, or CORBACH.

The Austrian general, Laudohn, having been repulsed with great loss, in an assault which he ventured to make upon Glatz, the night between the 27th and 28th of June, 1760, left but a small number of troops before that place, and marched in order to attack the corps under the command of General Fouquet. The latter, who was desirous of maintaining his post at Landshut, from whence he had just dislodged the Generals Giesrugg and Jahnus, took every measure immediately for making a good defence. He was obliged, however

however, to send off Major-General Ziethen with four battalions and two squadrons towards Frauenstein, in order to preserve a communication with Schweidnitz, as well as Major-General Grant, on the other side, with some cavalry; so that there were but few generals left with him, and part of his corps, of which the whole was already in itself but weak.

The 23d, at two o'clock in the morning, General Laudohn, with all his forces, attacked all the redoubts, which General Fouquet occupied near Landshut, and carried three of them, viz. those on the heights of Mummel, Boulk, and Blassdorff, after a vigorous defence on the part of the five battalions that guarded them. Amongst others, one of Moset's battalions distinguished itself extremely on this occasion.

General Fouquet having then thrown himself into the two redoubts, which he had still in his possession, upon the heights of Kinchenberg and Galgenberg, was twice summoned on the part of General Laudohn to surrender with his people, which he refused complying with. In consequence of which he was attacked with great fury by the enemy, who, by their superior force, penetrated at last into the redoubts which had been defended till six o'clock. General Fouquet fell there into the hands of the enemy, after having received two wounds; but part of his infantry, and almost all his cavalry, made their way, and got to Breslau.

Major-General Ziethen likewise, upon the approach of the enemy, threw himself into Schweidnitz, with his four battalions and two squadrons, without the loss of a single man. This affair, however unfortunate, cannot but do great honour to General Fouquet, for having defended his post with the utmost bravery, though he

he had but an handful of men opposed to an army, which, as the enemy themselves have declared, consisted of 50,000 men, and did not yield till after having occasioned as great a loss as they would have suffered by a defeat in a pitched battle. According to accounts received by the Austrians themslves, they had near 6000 men killed in the affair, and almost double that number wounded; which is the more credible, as M. Daun was thereupon obliged to detach five regiments of infantry and two of cavalry from his own army towards the county of Glatz upon the news of this action.

Landshut is the capital of lower Bavaria, in Germany.

THE BATTLE OF EMSDORF.

Advice having been received by Prince Ferdinand, at Saxenhausen, that a body of the enemy, consisting of some battalions and light troops, were advanced on the left as far as Ziegenhiem, he detached the hereditary prince on the 14th of July, with six battalions, two Hanoverian and four Hessian, Elliot's regiment (which was just arrived), Luckner's hussars, and two brigades of chasseurs, to oppose that corps. On the 15th the hereditary prince engaged them near the village of Emsdorff. The action was very warm for some time, but in the end the enemy was entirely defeated. Two battalions of royal Baviere, three of Anhalt, together with the commander-in-chief, Major-General Glaubitz, and the Prince of Anhalt Coethen, were made prisoners of war. Six pieces of their cannon were taken, and all their arms, baggage, &c. Elliot's regiment signalized themselves greatly upon this occasion.

Emsdorf is a village in Germany, situated in Hesse, on the Upper Rhine.

BATTLE

BATTLE OF WARBOURG.

General Sporcken's corps marched from the camp at Kalle to Lechenau, about four in the afternoon of the 29th of July, 1760; the hereditary prince followed, the same evening, with a body of troops, among which were two English battalions of grenadiers, two of Highlanders, and four squadrons of dragoons.

The army was under arms all day on the 30th, and, about eleven at night, marched off in six columns to Liebenau. About five the next morning the whole army assembled, and formed on the heights, near Corbcke. The hereditary prince was at this time *marching* in two columns, in order to turn the enemy's *left flank*; which he did by marching to Donhelbourg, leaving Klein-Eder on his left, and forming in two lines, with his left towards Dossel, and his right near Grimbeck, opposite to the left flank of the enemy, whose position was with the left to the high hill near Offendorff, and their right to Warbourg, into which place they had flung Fischer's corps. The hereditary prince immediately attacked the enemy's flank; and, by a *continual* fire, kept forcing them to fall back upon Warbourg. The army was at this time marched with the greatest diligence, to attack the enemy in front, but the infantry could not get up in time; General Waldegrave, at the head of the British, pressed their march as much as possible; no troops could shew more eagerness to get up than they shewed. Many of the men, from the heat of the weather, and over-straining themselves to get on, through morassy and very difficult ground, suddenly dropped down on their march.

General

General Mostyn, who was with the British cavalry that was formed on the right of the allies' infantry, on the other side of a large wood, upon receiving the duke's orders to come up with the cavalry as fast as possible, made so much expedition, bringing them up at full trot, though the distance was near five miles, that the British cavalry had the happiness to arrive in time, to share the glory of the day, having successfully charged, several times, both the enemy's cavalry and infantry.

Captain Phillips made so much expedition with his cannon, as to have an opportunity, by a severe cannonade, to oblige those who had passed the Dymel, and were formed on the other side, to retire with the utmost precipitation.

Warbourg is a town of Westphalia, in the bishopric of Paderborn, situated on the frontier of the Landgravate of Hesse, in Germany.

BATTLE OF LIGNITZ.

On the 13th day of August (1760) the King of Prussia with his army, having passed the Elbe at Kadetz on a bridge of boats, encamped between Puna and Dresden, which last he resolved to besiege, in hopes of reducing it before Count Daun could return to its relief. How far this expectation was well grounded, we will leave the reader to judge, after having observed, that the place was now much more defensible than it had been when the last attempt of the Austrians upon it miscarried; that it was secured with a numerous garrison, commanded by General Macguire, an officer of courage and experience. This governor being summoned to surrender, answered, that having the honour

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to be entrusted with the care of the capital, he would maintain it to the last extremity. Batteries were immediately raised against the town on both sides of the Elbe; and the poor inhabitants subjected to dreadful visitation, that their calamities might either drive them to despair, or move the heart of the governor to embrace articles of capitulation: but these expedients proved ineffectual. Though the suburbs towards the Piena-gate were attacked and carried, this advantage made no impression on General Macguire, who made several vigorous sallies, and took every necessary precaution for the defence of the city, encouraged moreover by the vicinity of Lacey's body, and the army of the empire, encamped in an advantageous position near Gros Seydlitz, and confident that Count Daun would hasten to his relief. In this hope he was not disappointed; the Austrian general, finding himself duped by the stratagem of the Prussian monarch, and being made acquainted with this enterprize against Dresden, instantly wheeled about, and marched back with such rapidity, that, on the 19th day of the month, he reached the neighbourhood of the capital of Saxony. In consequence of his approach, the King of Prussia, whose heavy artillery was now arrived, redoubled his efforts against the city, so as to reduce to ashes the cathedral church, the new square, several noble streets, some palaces, together with the curious manufactory of porcelaine. His vengeance must have been levelled against the citizens; for it affected neither the fortifications, nor the Austrian garrison, which Count Daun found means to reinforce with sixteen battalions. This supply, and the neighbourhood of three hostile armies, rendered it altogether impossible to prosecute the siege with

MUTILATION NOTED

"There ought always to be one hundred and fifty paces between the lines. The colonels of artillery to place their cannon so as to facilitate the attacks.

"As soon as the enemy is driven from the vineyards, the battalions to form again, and the heavy artillery to be advanced.

"When cavalry may be wanted, the whole wing must not be sent forward, but only as much as may suit the ground, and have proper space for action.

"The king relies confidently on the skill and courage of the officers for every thing else. He has no doubt that every one will exert himself to the utmost to insure success, and a complete victory over the enemy."

Torgau is a city in the electorate of Saxony, situated on the river Elbe.

As this was the last battle of importance, in which the King of Prussia was personally engaged, we shall take the present opportunity of relating the life of that truly great monarch and extraordinary man.

CHARLES FREDERIC of Prussia, the eldest son of Frederic William and Sophia Dorothea, daughter of George the First of England, was born January 24, 1712. It would appear that his education had been rather confined, and that he owed to his genius, rather than the choice or abilities of his teachers, the acquisitions which distinguished his future conduct.

The differences between Frederic William and his son, were the first objects that attracted public notice to the latter. The old king appears to have been an extraordinary mixture of intelligence and incapacity: he raised and disciplined a vast military force, without any warlike spirit, he sought for means of acquiring money without the power of contriving objects for its applica-

tion: and thus subjected himself to the trouble and obloquy, of tyranny and rapacity over the people for the sole benefit of those to whom he would not accord in his life time the smallest advantage. It is not wonderful that such a man should be rough and austere in his manners, or that his disposition should so far suppress even the duties of his rank as to lead him to the improprieties of the vulgar. Whoever offended him, whether male or female, of whatever quality or relation, were sure to receive from his hands a prompt and personal violence.

Under these circumstances the life of the young prince could by no means be supposed to be happy; moderate adversity is the best school for princes, as well as other men; he had the good fortune to turn his attention *from* the court to men famous for knowledge and *virtue*. These led him to the contemplation of science and letters, and as he who has the power and inclination to reward it, can always claim the best assistance he acquired according to the language of admiration, a proficiency beyond his teachers. However this may be, his subsequent performances certainly evince a high degree of attainment. His acquisitions seem at the same time to have rendered him impatient of the restriction he sustained at Berlin; the relation between the possessor and heir-apparent of a throne, must always be invidious, unless bounds could be prescribed to possession; in this instance it must have been particularly so, and the prince therefore determined to retire, it is supposed to his uncle of England. In his departure he had a confidant of the name of Kat, a military man of great repute, who was also to be his companion; a short time before their departure, however the design being completely

pletely discovered, they were both arrested, and the life of the officer was sacrificed to this dangerous confidence. It seems, that, finding it difficult to convict him of a crime upon any common principle of justice, the king sent his commands a second time to the judges, who condemned him on the edict of tyranny. Kat appears to have been an intelligent man, and to have cultivated his literary powers, since some papers were published, written by him in prison, on providence in opposition to destiny, particularly addressed to the prince.

This deprivation was soon followed by another of a still more delicate nature. If a sexual connection, unratified by marriage, is not always to be blamed with equal severity, the exception must be strongest in favour of those whose natural are absorbed in their political rights. Frederic had attached himself to a lady, whom the laws permitted him not to marry, and to this unhappy victim was next directed the attention of regal severity. She was ignominiously apprehended, on what accusation is unknown, and publicly whipped in the streets of Berlin!

It does not appear, that, by any effort, the prince endeavoured to stem the torrent of his father's severity, or to alleviate the painful circumstances to which it had reduced his friend and mistress.

In 1733, a marriage was solemnized, without consummation, between him and the Princess Elizabetha Christiana of Brunswick Lunenburg Bevern. At the instance of his father, he agreed to the match, but resolved to confine it to the empty ceremony. For seven years this unhappy princess remained isolated between the contentions of the king and prince—"a wife without a husband."

In 1740, the old king died, after a painful though not protracted illness, such as may be supposed in the impatience of turbulent age. He would probably have beaten his physicians, as he had done his wife and daughters, but the approach of death shut out every other idea than the perpetuity of his tall regiment. This association of the tall men of every country, (for all that could boast an approximation to seven feet were welcome) had been the delightful exercise of the mornings of many years, and as we do not see our attachments with the eyes of others, it is not wonderful that he conceived it important. He called his son to his bed, and requested him to receive his compulsory wife, and to recruit the tall regiment! Though we smile at the dying request, we could not congratulate the son, who thought it necessary to answer by equivocation.

The accession to the throne of Frederic was fraught with the highest expectation, by every description of his subjects, yet the result exceeded even the most sanguine prospects. He had two of the greatest advantages of empire, an army and money, provided for him by his father, and to these he added the means of employing them with success, by inviting some of the greatest men of his own, if not of any other age, to adorn his capital, and assist him with their advice. He received his wife as queen, though it is not known that he treated her as either. To his mother he behaved with all proper tenderness, gave her the title of queen mother, and restricted her from calling him any thing else than son. Soon after his coronation, as he was passing between Berlin and Potsdam, a thousand boys, who had been marked for military service by his father, a (barbarous mode of selecting the finest men for his army), followed

lowed his coach, crying, "Merciful king, we pray thee, deliver us from our slavery!" He immediately complied with their request. A general toleration of religion followed, and a permission to profess free-masonry, a union which has become but little understood, and of which the spirit is almost destroyed. An order for favor was changed to an order of merit, and a variety of improvements in the condition of his people were soon effected, with the assistance of Maupertuis, Voltaire, and Rollin; of the first he desired to arrange an academy at Berlin, and he proceeded with an ardour in the advancement of learning, that never fails to elevate a country.

But the army of Frederic, notwithstanding the decline which the tall regiment soon experienced, attracted no less his attention, as a source from which he was certain to derive his highest grandeur. An opportunity soon offered, in the war with the Queen of Hungary, which, however, ceased with the peace of Dresden. It was then that he retired to the improvement of his country in arts, manufactures, and commerce, and covered the barren deserts of Pomerania, with cultured fields and a smiling population. The patriot king had by this time gained full possession of his mind, and the effects were to be equally seen and felt from the remotest village to his polished capital.

"Ah, why will kings forget that they are men?"

Still, however, the trying times were yet to come, when he should stamp his fame as more than modern Cæsar. At the commencement of the general war, our present subject, in 1756, the King of Prussia formed an alliance with his Britannic majesty, which led to those

immortal campaigns we have attempted to describe. He began his operations by that useful art of a general, which carries the war into other territories, and derives the advantage of the attack. A succession of actions ensued, with reverses of fortune more various, and successes more permanently brilliant, than are to be found in any other period of military history; and such was the admiration of his character in the British empire, in 1758, that the people, wrought to enthusiasm, approved the parliament in voting a subsidy for his use of 670,000l.

This is a period at which we are to contemplate Frederic as the greatest general and most distinguished monarch of his time. It has been said, that he had originally an aversion to war, which required much pains to overcome; that even his personal courage was doubtful, since at his first battle at Mollvitz, when the Austrian cavalry charged his infantry, he fled from the field: but this might easily arise from the concussion of the charge, the danger of which must be magnified to a novice in the evolutions of war. Ever afterwards, he evinced the most perfect self-command, in situations which might appal the most hardy, and an undisputed valour. After his first war, he established grand camps and reviews, in which his troops, whether cavalry or infantry, but particularly the former, became the admiration of Europe for their expertness in manœuvres and scientific operations. In the war, of which we are at present treating, he contrived to obtain the subsistence of his army from an enemy's country or his own, without wasting the one or exhausting the other. What has been said of the confidence in Marlborough of his troops, may be reiterated with regard to Frederic.—Never was it weakened in the most disastrous circumstances.

stances. Scarcely ever was his army equal to that which opposed him, yet he never failed to animate it to vigour, and often success. He had the *coup d'oeil* of the general to perfection; whatever was necessary to be done, his genius instantly suggested, and rarely did it turn out, that it could have been better done.

But the greatest quality of his character, in any point of view, was his magnanimity in the acknowledgment of his errors, whenever they occurred. Among many other instances, was the following, which will at the same time afford no unfavourable specimen of his epistolary manner. Writing to the Lord Mareschal Keith, the brother of the field-marshal whom we have already noticed, after the battle at Chotzomitz, in which he was defeated, he says:——

"The imperial grenadiers are admirable troops; one hundred companies defended a rising ground that my best infantry could not carry. Ferdinand, who commanded them, returned seven times to the charge, but to no purpose. At first he mastered a battery, but could not hold it. The enemy had the advantage of a numerous and well served artillery. It does honour to Lichtenstein, who had the direction of it; the Prussian alone can dispute it with him. I had too few infantry; all my cavalry were present, and idle spectators, excepting a bold push by my household troops and some dragoons. Ferdinand attacked without powder. The enemy, in return, was not sparing of theirs. They had the advantage of a rising ground, of intrenchments, and of a prodigious artillery. Several of my regiments were repulsed by their musquetry. Henry performed wonders. I tremble for my worthy brothers; they are too brave. Fortune turned her back on me on that

day

day; I ought to have expected it: she is a female, and I am no gallant. In fact, I ought to have had more infantry. Success, my dear lord, often occasions a destructive confidence. Twenty-three battalions were not sufficient to dislodge sixty thousand men from an advantageous post. Another time we will do better.—What say you of this league, that has only the Marquis of Brandenburg for its object? The great elector would be surprised to see his grandson at war with the Russians, the Austrians, and almost all Germany, and ten thousand French auxiliaries. I know not if it will be a disgrace in me to submit; but I am sure there will be no great glory in vanquishing me."

In addition to his personal character, Frederic is great, in having had for his historian Maupertuis, who, while disclaiming it, pronounces his highest panegyric. "As a king," says this striking and elegant writer, "he is a man, a citizen, a legislator, and a patriot. His own extensive mind forms all his plans of government, undebased by selfish, ministerial interests, and misrepresentations. Justice and humanity are his only ministers." It is to be feared, however, that to perpetuate his improvements, he must have perpetuated with them himself. "A philosopher," continues the same writer, "will find both the man and the philosopher in Frederic, unallayed by the king, and unsullied by the warrior."

It was 1779, before the King of Prussia was permitted to enjoy that repose for which he shewed himself so eminently fitted. About this period, he resigned himself to the pleasures of literature and philosophy, an indulgence but partially allowed him in the busy toils of war, and anxious care of government. He conversed freely with the

the literary men whom his encouragement had attracted to his court, and entirely threw off the monarch in their company. He corresponded with all the great characters of his time, and established his fame beyond the power of injury. Dr. Zimmermann, the author of the volumes on "Solitude," has described his personal errors with considerable severity; but the peculiarity of his charges render them only fit for disquisitions on the vices of our nature. And it is of little import to millions made happy, to know that their benefactor was yet not perfect, or that he whose life was chiefly directed to good, should have been sometimes weak or foolish. This author also describes his last illness as similar in conduct to that of his father; it is probable, that his father, with the same advantages as Frederic, might have been equally great; but it is little likely, that he, who had studied to obtain and deserve the esteem of the world, should have sacrificed it all in the last moments of his life to the wit of a garrulous physician.

A dropsy, which had afflicted the king for several months, at length deprived him of life, on the 17th of August, 1786, in the 75th year of his age, and forty-third of his reign.

A variety of anecdotes are recorded of Frederic the Great, whose life may be easily supposed to be replete with them. They have mostly, however, been so often repeated in every language, that we add but two, from the "*Ecole du Soldat*," of BERENGER, from whom we should expect the best.

It was the custom of the king, whenever a fresh soldier appeared among the number of his guards, (which were composed of the flower of all the regiments) to inspect him, and to inquire his age? how long he had served?

served? and if he received his pay and cloathing as he wished? These three questions were always asked, and never exceeded. Among others, a young Frenchman, of fine figure, having been enlisted, desired, and immediately obtained this promotion. But he could not speak a word of German, and how he was to answer the king the first time he should notice him, was matter of some embarrassment. His captain, however, recommended, as the only mode, that he should acquire sufficient of the language to answer the three questions. The young man, who made a better soldier than linguist, learnt by heart the three answers, but no more. The next morning, the anticipated interview took place. Frederic perceived him in the ranks, and immediately went up to him; but, as ill-luck would have it, *began* with the second question, instead of the first.—"Well, how long have you been in my service!" "Twenty-one years!" answered the soldier. The king, struck with his age, which did not warrant a life, much less a service, of such length, added, with an air of surprise, "How old are you then?" "One year, under the good pleasure of your majesty." Frederic, still more astonished, exclaimed: "Either you or me have certainly lost our senses." The soldier, who took these words for the third question, replied, with firmness, "Both the one and the other, if I don't displease your majesty." "Zounds!" said Frederic; "for the first time am I treated as a madman at the head of my own army." The soldier, who had now exhausted his provision of German, henceforth preserved silence; and when the king returned towards him, urging farther questions to penetrate the mystery, was at length constrained to answer in French, that "he did not understand a single word

of

of German." Frederic, bursting into laughter, desired him to learn something, at least, of the language spoken in his states, and with an air of kindness, of which he was very capable, exhorted him to attend to his duty.

Among the visits, which the king made incognito among his soldiery, he met one returning to his quarters at night extremely tipsey, and joining in familiar conversation with him, asked how, with his little pay, he was enabled to make such copious libations? "Upon my word, comrade," says he, "I have the same pay as you, and yet I can't lay any thing by for the public-house; tell me, for good-luck, how you do." "Why, you look like a droll devil and a good fellow," says the soldier, "and why should I hide it from you? To-day, for instance, I am just come from regaling an old acquaintance; it would be very hard, wouldn't it, if now and then one could not take a glass with a friend: well, in such a case, a day's pay don't go far; I have, therefore, been forced to have recourse to a sly trick." "What is it?" "Why I pawn such of my things as I can spare for a few days, and then a little abstinence enables me to get them again. This morning, the blade of my sword went: we don't go out for a week, so I shan't want it, ha! ha! ha!" Frederic thanked him, marked his man, and wished him good night. Next morning, the troops received a sudden order to assemble for review, and Frederic carefully examined the lines. As soon as he came to his tricking comrade, he made him march out of the ranks with his right-hand man, and undress themselves. "Attention!" said he; then to him whom he meant to surprise; "Draw your sword, and cut off the head of that wretch!" The soldier, trembling, began to excuse himself in the best manner; he supplicated

ed the king, that he would not condemn him to linger in misery all his life, for having been the instrument of killing an innocent and worthy man, with whom he had served fifteen years. The king remained inflexible. "Well, sire," said he, after a pause, "since nothing I find will move you, I pray God to grant a miracle in my favour, and to change my sword to a bit of wood!" He pronounced these words with affected devotion; and feigned the greatest surprise, when, on drawing his sword, he found his wish accomplished. The monarch admired his address, and gave him money to redeem his sword, but with a suitable caution.

Having finished the campaign of 1760, with the important battle of Torgau, and the death of George II. king of Great Britain, we proceed to the campaign of 1761, the first during the reign of King George the Third.

BATTLE OF LANGENSALTZE.

M. de Sporcken, the Prussian general, having divided the corps under him into two columns, one of which was commanded by Count Killmansegge, and the other by Lieutenant-general Wangenheim, put Major-general de Luckner at the head of a strong advanced guard, who marched on the 9th of February, 1761, to Helligenstadt.

The first column arrived at Bureu, and the second at Stadthwerbes. The troops halted the 10th. M. de Luckner marched the next day to Kelstadt. Count Killmansegge to Helmstorff, and M. de Wangenheim to Baberstadt.

M. de

M. de Sporcken went to reconnoitre the enemy, several of whose regiments of infantry had passed the Werra at Eschwege. There were 5000 French in the city of Muhlhausen; that of Langensaltze, and the villages in its neighbourhood, were occupied by Saxons. M. de Sporcken found on the heights of Dorne, four battalions of grenadiers of France ranged in order of battle, and the infantry posted in the wood towards Eschevege, to protect the communication of the Werra with Muhlhausen and Langensaltze. M. de Luckner had orders to attack them the next day in the morning with his corps, which was to be sustained by two battalions and six squadrons. The same day M. de Belsunce appeared before Dunderstadt with 3000 men, and some cannon of the garrison of Gattingen. He summoned Lieutenant-colonel Rehborn, who commanded in that town, three times, and upon the negative answers received from him, he caused the gates to be battered for three hours; but his attempts were fruitless, and he returned the same night.

On the 12th, M. de Luckner attacked the French and Swiss grenadiers, who had passed the night under arms in the wood of Dorne, over against his advanced posts at Anerode and Buckewriede. He pushed them as far as the heights of Egerieden, where they gained a thick wood, which Count de Lolms had fortified with felled trees. They cannonaded each other. The enemy received reinforcements from the quarters on the Werra, and those of the Saxons.

The night coming on, M. de Sporcken could not assemble his men so as to undertake any thing against the enemy; he contented himself with making some changes in the disposition of his quarters, and to push

the posts further on. The skirmishes of this day cost him forty men, in killed and wounded. The loss of the enemy was more considerable, and four officers and fifty of their men were taken.

M. de Sporcken put his troops in order of battle on the 13th, at seven o'clock in the morning, upon the height, called Eisberg; but having found the enemy reinforced; that they had occupied all the woods, where the horse could not act; and that the troops of his Prussian majesty were at the distance of three marches, he resolved to pass the Unstrut at Lilberhausen and Hortsmaar, to draw near them by a forced march.

He informed M. de Sibourg of his intentions, and the motion was executed in presence of the enemy without the least loss. The troops were cantoned between Keyeershager and Marolderode.

The corps of Prussians advanced on the 14th to the height of Langensaltze, which was occupied by 3000 Saxons. M. de Sporcken occupied the village on the left side of the river Unstrut, with the troops of his first line, and drew those of his second line as near it as possible.

He agreed with M. de Sibourg, that the Prussian troops should pass the Unstrut at Merchleban, whilst he passed it at Thomasbruck, and M. de Luckner at Boldstedt. In the night, the bridges which the enemy had broken were repaired.

On the 15th, at seven in the morning, all the troops came to the river-side in order to pass it, but the thaw had increased the waters to such a degree in twice twenty-four hours, that there was an inundation from Muhlhausen almost to Langensaltze.

The Prussian cavalry got through the passage of

Merchleban, while their cannon was battering the town of Langensaltze. Eight squadrons of M. de Sporcken's first line passed Thomasbruck with a brigade of Chasseurs, and a squadron of Luckner's, whose whole corps could not pass, the waters continuing out all the day. In the meantime, the Prussian cavalry fell upon the enemy, who were going out of Langensaltze, and M. de Sporcken's corps did so likewise, upon the troops which were coming down the hills to their assistance.

M. de Sporcken computes the enemy's loss on that day at 5000 men, at the same time his own scarcely exceeded 100. Lieutenant-general Hodenberg was wounded and taken prisoner.

The Prussians took three battalions, and seven pieces of cannon; and M. de Sporcken's corps took two battalions, and six pieces of cannon.

The town of Langensaltze is situated in Hesse, in Germany.

BATTLE OF KIRCH DENCKERN, or FELLINGHAUSEN.

Since the army occupied the camp of Hoenover, that of the enemy, encamped at Soert, under the command of Prince Soubire, seemed to have been wholly employed in reconnoitering the position of the allies, which was a very advantageous one, on account of the woods and defiles which it was necessary to pass, in order to come up with them. There was not a day in which their posts were not disturbed. His serene highness, Prince Ferdinand, was informed, on the 19th, in the evening, that Soubire's army had made a motion forward, in consequence of which, he ordered the baggage away, and the army to hold itself in readiness, to

be put under arms on the first signal. On the 14th, in the morning, the enemy's new camp was discovered, the right of which stretched towards the convent of Boradies and Soert, the left reaching to the heights of Blurne, and all having appeared quiet there, the baggage was ordered back.

His serene highness, however, thought proper to make a movement with his army, the intention of which was to reinforce the right wing. The hereditary prince was at the extremity of it, which extended as far as the village of Buderick, which was guarded by a detachment. The body of the army occupied the heights of Wambeln, and the Prince of Anhalt the ground between Illengen and Hoenover. Lord Granby kept his position on the heights of Kirch Denckern, and Lieutenant-general Wutegnau, who was encamped upon the heath of Untrup, marched by his right to approach the village of Kirch Denckern, the avenues and posts on the little village Aart, and the Sultyback, were guarded by the piquets of the army.

This was the position, when his serene highness was informed, on the 15th, about six in the evening, that Soubire's army had struck their tents, and were marching on their right. Almost at the same instant, he heard the enemy had dislodged the advanced posts of Lord Granby, and that they were advancing in a strong body towards his camp.

This information determined him to make the following dispositions. He ordered Lord Granby to maintain his ground till the last moment. Lieutenant-general Wutegnau was ordered to march to the left to block up the high-road from Leipstadt to Slam, and to act in concert with Lord Granby, whose right was to be supported by the

the Prince of Anhalt, who joined it with his left, his own right reaching to the Aast above Kirch Denckren. Lieutenant-general Conway replaced the Prince of Anhalt between Illengen and Hoenover. The hereditary prince ordered Lieutenant-general Bose to march with part of his troops to occupy the heights of Wambeln, and left Count Kilmansegge on the side of Brederick. The greatest part of the artillery was distributed by Count Schaumburg Lippe on the front of the left.

M. de Sporcken, who was encamped at Hertzfeld, was ordered to send six battalions and six squadrons over the Lippe, which were to support M. Wutegnau, and he was to dispose, and act with the rest in a way which he should think most proper.

These dispositions being made, his serene highness came to Lord Granby's camp, which was attacked very briskly. His lordship had taken his measures so well, that he sustained the efforts of the enemy till the arrival of M. Wutegnau, who coming upon his left, and having taken the enemy in flank, they could not withstand their united efforts, and were driven back into the woods, after a fire of artillery and small arms, which continued till late in the evening. M. de Wutegnau kept the ground he had just gained, he extended his right to Haust Velinghausen, and turned his left towards the high-road of Llan, the defence of which place was his chief object; discovering from the prisoners, that Mareschal Broglio had decamped at break of day with his whole army from Erwite, in order to give us battle, in conjunction with that of Prince Soubire.

His serene highness, judging that the strongest effort could be made on their left, ordered general Havard to

bring up the brigade of foot, commanded by Lord Frederic Cavendish, and that of cavalry, by Major-general Lord Pembroke. Colonel Glenendorff was sent with two battalions to Kirch Denckern, to barricade and fortify that village, who, in case of necessity, was to be supported by Lieutenant-general Howard; the enemy was in some posts opposite to the piquets of the allies, and the paroles were skirmishing all night.

The battle began again next morning at three, and the enemy redoubled their efforts against M. Wutegnau's corps, who sustained them with the greatest firmness. The fire from the artillery and small arms continued five hours without the enemy's gaining an inch of ground. It was near nine when word was brought his serene highness, that the enemy seemed to design bringing some batteries upon an eminence, opposite to Lord Granby's camp, which they had not been able to place within their lines. His highness, perceiving the necessity of preventing the enemy from seizing this eminence, from whence they might have galled them very much, and being informed of the arrival of the detachment, under General Sporcken, resolved to take advantage of the irresolution which appeared in the motions of the enemy, and ordered the troops which were nearest at hand to advance.

This movement was decisive, and had all the success that could be desired. The troops, having advanced with the greatest intrepidity, soon obliged the enemy to give way, and to retreat with precipitation, having abandoned their sick and wounded, and several pieces of cannon, some of which were sixteen-pounders; Maxwell's regiment of grenadiers took the regiment of Rougé, formerly

nerly Beldunce, consisting of four battalions, with its cannon and colours. Besides which, they made a great many prisoners.

The victorious troops followed the enemy as far as Haltrup, and the nature of the ground not having allowed the cavalry's acting, his serene highness was then obliged to content himself with detaching some light troops in pursuit of them.

A brisk cannonade was still continued on the side where the hereditary prince commanded; but upon the news of the defeat upon their right, they were probably induced to give over their attacks in that part too.

They had made several unsuccessful ones upon the village of Sheidingen, which was occupied by 200 men, under the command of Major Limburg, supported by some battalions sent by the hereditary prince. The day ended with a general retreat of the enemy.

Other accounts mention, that the loss of the French in killed, wounded, and prisoners, was computed to be about 5000 men, and that nine pieces of cannon, and six pair of colours, were taken. The battle was fought on the 15th of July, 1761.

Kirch Denckern, or Bellinghausen, is a village, situated in the palatinate of the Upper Rhine, in Germany.

This battle, being the last in which the Marquis of Granby (a name rendered dear to his country during his campaigns) was distinguished, we shall add such an account of his life, as is afforded by the scanty materials hitherto offered to the public.

JOHN MANNERS, Marquis of Granby, son of John Duke of Rutland, was born January 5, 1721. His education was private but liberal, and particularly in a due pre-

preparation for the profession to which he early destined himself.

On the commencement of the rebellion, in 1745, and while only twenty-four years of age, he raised a regiment of foot at his own expence, with a degree of public spirit, and attachment to the royal family, that merited and obtained the highest credit. Having advanced in the ordinary progress of military routine, he was promoted to the rank of major general in 1755, and three years after to that of lieutenant-general.

In the year 1758, he was also made colonel of the Blues, and sent with the British forces to Germany, under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick. In the very next year, having acquitted himself highly to the satisfaction of the British court, he was made commander-in-chief of the British forces, with the most decided approbation of the army. He had by this time evinced very considerable skill in military affairs, great valour, unbounded humanity, and an open, affable disposition.

The battle of Minden was the first in which the marquis eminently distinguished himself; the same in which Lord George Sackville, from an error in the comprehension of his orders, received a severe reproof. With a small body of infantry he forced the enemy's centre, consisting of strong squadrons of horse. The promise of this action was soon fulfilled in that of Warburg, in 1760, and a variety of others, during the following campaign; and more particularly in that of which we have just given an account.

In 1762, he was equally successful, during the whole of the campaign, and signalised his valour with particular force in the affairs of Grabesteen and Hombourg. After this, he returned to England, covered with laurels, and

and the esteem of the whole army, as well as that of all the German princes. He had already been admitted a member of the privy-council, and received on his return the peculiar approbation of the king.

A settled melancholy had, however, been perceived in his disposition for some time, previous to his return, of the cause of which we have no satisfactory information. It hung over him, however, notwithstanding his wish to conceal it, till the year 1770, when he lingered away, and died in the lifetime of his father, at the age of forty-nine. It would be matter of pleasing speculation, to ascertain what could cause the despondency of such successful merit, and has not been unattempted; but, alas! the sources of those impulses, which often direct the human heart, are impervious to the multitude, and only discoverable by the sensible attention of a close observer. The character of the Marquis of Granby has been never disputed. It was brilliant and excellent.

BATTLE OF SCHWEIDNITZ.

The King of Prussia, having ventured to quit a strong camp, which he had at this time near Schweidnitz, to seek for provisions nearer to the Oder, of which his army stood in need; and at the same time drawing off 4000 men from the garrison of Schweidnitz, for the safety of which fortress he was in no pain; as, being removed only to a very small distance, he was persuaded the enemy would not be able to besiege it, without his receiving timely notice to arrive to its relief. A consideration which, probably, was well founded, had his ma-

jesty been engaged with a general less capable than Laudohn. But as Laudohn had, through the whole campaign, watched him with a most diligent and penetrating assiduity, and hitherto had found no part open and unguarded, he, with a courage and sagacity peculiar to himself, seized the opportunity, and resolved to attack Schweidnitz by a coup de main.

This was the most valuable place possessed by the Prussians in Silesia. Its situation was centrical. It was strongly fortified, and his majesty had deposited here a great quantity of artillery and military stores. The 1st of October, 1760, at three in the morning, was ordered for the execution of this enterprize. A select number of troops were ordered upon this service, who, under cover of a thick fog, got under the walls, and even fixed their scaling ladders in four different places before they were discovered by the garrison; they scaled the walls in each place at the same time, so that the garrison fired a very few shots, and were in a manner deprived of the use of their cannon. But what completed their ruin was the explosion of a magazine of powder in one of the outworks, occasioned by the fire of the small arms. By which about 300 Prussians, and as many Austrians, were blown up, and the outworks fell into the hands of the enemy, who, having nothing in their way, prepared to assault the body of the place, burst open the gate, and after firing a few shot, they got entire possession of the town by day-break; whereby Lieutenant-general Zastrow, the governor, with about 3000 men, were made prisoners at discretion, besides the loss of a great quantity of meal, and a great number of cannon, with the loss of no more than 600 Austrians, 300 of whom were blown up with the magazine.

This

This unfortunate and painful loss closes the actions of importance in the campaign of 1761. It was, however, regained in that ensuing, which once more opened those brilliant prospects to which we have been accustomed. Of these, however, we are enabled to give but two instances, since the present section, already extended to too great length, must decrease, in interest, in proportion to the want of those vicissitudes which are about to be brought to a close.

BATTLE OF DOBELN AND SIEGE OF SCHWEIDNITZ.

The King of Prussia, delivered from the Russians and Swedes, and restored to his provinces, torn from him by the arms of Russia, was more at liberty to pursue his measures against the other parties in the confederacy; but the stoppage of the British subsidy made him hesitate some time in the execution of those measures.—However, when he found that he had nothing but himself to trust to, he ordered his brother Henry to take the field in Saxony, against the imperialists, reinforced by a strong body of Austrians. With this corps the prince ventured upon an action, on the 12th of May, 1762, and though it was not attended with any consequences, his highness displayed his masterly genius, by surprising the enemy's left wing at Dobeln, beat up their quarters, and made them retreat with the loss of 200 men, some cannon, and a considerable magazine, though the enemy were vastly superior in numbers. But the enemy having called in their detachment, they, in turn, gained several petty advantages over the advanced posts of the Prussians by some trifling skirmishes.

In

In the meantime, his Prussian majesty waited an opportunity to attack Count Daun with advantage, who grew now more cautious than ever, since the defection of the Russians and Swedes, who were ready on all occasions to divide the force, and distract the mind of the victor, in case of a miscarriage in the Austrian army.—The campaign, on this side, was opened by forcing the advanced posts of the Austrian right wing, which spread terror and alarm throughout their whole army. Then he laid siege to Schweidnitz, in defiance to Count Daun.

His Prussian majesty sat down before that city on the 8th of August, with a spirit of revenge, determined to recover that important fortress at all adventures, which had been given up so unaccountably to the Austrians. The only stratagem that the enemy could devise, to draw the king from this siege, was to oblige him to march to the assistance of the Prince of Bevern, who was posted with a body of Prussians at Riechenback. For this purpose, M. Daun detached General Laudohn, with a superior force, to attack the prince; but not with that secrecy as to prevent his diving into his design. Which being notified by the prince to the king, and his highness making a vigorous stand, till the reinforcement, his majesty turned it to the enemy's disadvantage. For the king drew off no more of his army than could be spared in the continuation of the siege, and with that draught he in person fell, unexpectedly, upon the Austrian's flank, when they presumed too much on the success of the day over the Prince of Bevern, and, after a short dispute, totally routed Laudohn, with the loss of 2400 men.

M. Daun was so disappointed in this design, that he took

took no other measures for the safety of Schweidnitz; and the garrison of this fortress having lost all hopes of relief, proposed to capitulate. But his Prussian majesty would grant no other terms than to surrender prisoners of war. Which being rejected with spirit by Count Guesco, the governor, who declared he would defend the place to the last extremity, the siege was continued with great vigour, and a terrible fire on both sides, with doubtful success, till the 8th of October, when a considerable breach being made by the springing of a mine, that carried away part of the rampart, while the brave governor saw every thing prepared for storming, and he not able to withstand the shock of so powerful an army, commanded by such an able and resolute prince, he immediately surrendered, with a garrison of 10,300 men.

The Austrians lost at this siege 2000 men killed; the Prussians allowed theirs to exceed 3000 killed.

BATTLE OF FRIEDBURG.

Prince Henry of Prussia, being reinforced by a strong detachment from the army of the king his brother, attacked on the morning of the 28th of October (1762), the united armies of Austrians and Imperialists, under the command of Prince de Stolberg in the absence of General Haddick, who was gone to Dresden. The action lasted till two in the afternoon, when the enemy was entirely routed, and obliged to quit the field of battle, and the town of Friedburg, to the Russians, who took, besides 5000 or 6000 prisoners, thirty pieces of cannon, and several colours and standards.

What made the circumstances of this battle, according to the above account, so much the more glorious, were, that Prince Henry had with him only a part of his troops; the corps under General Hulsen having only made movements to facilitate the operations of his royal highness, and the reinforcement under the command of Count de Neuwied, having got no further since the day of battle than the neighbourhood of Grossenhayen.

The number of prisoners which his royal highness Prince Henry of Prussia made at the battle of Friedberg, over a combined army of Austrians and the troops of the empire, commanded by the Prince de Stolberg, consisted of 1 lieutenant-general, Baron de Rodt, 1 colonel, 1 major, 24 captains, 41 lieutenants, 11 ensigns, and 4174 private men, besides 159 under-officers. The artillery taken, 27 pieces of cannon, with 9 standards and colours.

Friedburg is a city of Germany, in the circle of Suabia, the capital of the territory of Bresgau, situated twenty-eight miles southfrom Strasburg, and twenty-eight miles north from Basil.

Here then we end our account of the principal battles in the German war, a conflict in which that art appears to have been carried to its utmost stretch, and from which generals may learn the necessary movements in almost every variety of situation or caprice of fortune. At no time (says an intelligent writer) since the days of heroism, were such numbers destroyed, so many towns taken, so many skirmishes fought, such stratagems practised, or such intrepidity discovered. Armies were, by the German discipline, considered as composing one great machine, directed by one commander, and animated by a single will. Nevertheless, this splendid

did career began to tire even the victors, and all parties seemed disposed to listen to a pacification which had been long dictated by humanity.

The British empire had been for a considerable period extending itself beyond any ordinary bounds of conception, and seemed now in a condition to dictate terms to all the world; a negotiation was, however, began between Great Britain and the Bourbon courts, which ended in a definitive treaty February 10, 1763. The King of Prussia soon followed the example with the Empress Queen, and thus was ended this active and universal war.

END OF VOLUME II.

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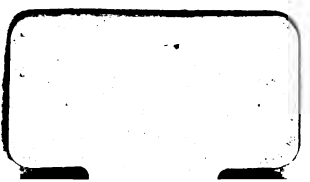
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